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PART X.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

TURKISH WAR.

July 1913.

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264	[illegible]	[illegible] Tel.	[illegible]	Evacuation of Scutari [illegible] Refers to No. 17[illegible] [illegible]	119
265	Sir [illegible]	[illegible] Tel.	13	[illegible] Secretary [illegible] Affairs [illegible]	[illegible]
266	Sir R. [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]3	[illegible] Refers to No. [illegible] Majesty's [illegible]	[illegible]19
267	[illegible]	[illegible]	3	Second Balkan war: [illegible] Government [illegible] to accept [illegible]	[illegible]
268	Sir [illegible]	[illegible] Tel.	13	Second Balkan war: [illegible] Refers to No. 1[illegible] [illegible] Minister [illegible] Foreign Affairs [illegible] Greek [illegible] Bulgaria [illegible] No. 3[illegible]	[illegible]20
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275	Admiralty	Admiralty	14.	Evacuation of Scutari. Sanjak of Bey Bagh. Transmits telegram from Sir A. Bunbury stating that Montenegrins are for ransom of Scutari, and that Montenegrins are anxious to withdraw from Albania, but that Essad Pasha will not be permitted as public enemy (see No. 48)	29
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517	Director of Military Operations		" 23	Second Balkan war. Military attaché to remain at Constantinople. Refers to No. 485 and states that Military Operations Committee of Imperial Defence have decided that he should remain	227
518	Sir E. Barclay	129 T.	" 22	Second Balkan war. Austrian proposals for Turkish Ministry. Says reasons for Grand Vizier's objections to peace preliminaries to take place at Bucharest rather than London. Refers to No. 508	227
519	"	131 Tel.	" 23.	Second Balkan war. Roumanian advance. Transmits telegrams from military attaché at Belgrade stating that Bulgarian troops are to north of Balkans, and that Roumanian right is in touch with Servians	227
520	"	132 Te	" 23,	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Servian Government agree to procedure indicated in No. 477, and will do their best to get Greek Government to agree (No. 521)	227

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521	Sir G. Barclay	135 Te.	July 23. 1913	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 520. Greek Government decline to accept armistice. Their demands not satisfied. Roumania's Government will now propose temporary suspension of hostilities pending meeting of peace delegates, but strong pressure will be exerted at Vienna and Rome to accept plan of this year No. 477	228
522	"	134 Te.	" 23.	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. King of Roumania has telegraphed to King of Greece, Servia, and Montenegro urging acceptance of mediation (see No. 521)	228
523	Sir H. Barclay (Vienna)	309 Te	" 23.	Second Balkan war. Peace negotiations. Refers to No. 516. Greeks have only recently occupied Janina and threaten Epirus	228
524	"	310 Tel	" 23	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 472. Greek Crown Prince's telegram stated Will probably be good enough to explain to Greek Government that they should not ask for cessation of hostilities until Bulgarian position is somewhat improved. Refers to No. 508	228
525	Sir R. Paget	283 Tel.	" 23.	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 508. Servian Government have now both at Belgrade and Sofia pressed Bulgarian Government to accept proposals (see No. 508)	229
26	Mr. Marling	309 Te	" 23.	Second Balkan war. Representations to Bulgaria. Minister has made great efforts to induce Bulgarian Government to accept proposals. Refers to No. 508. Kiriak's speech. Bulgarian Government's reply to Austro-Hungarian and Italian representations	229
527	"	310 Te	" 23,	Second Balkan war. Massacres in Thrace. Refers to No. 483. Have by no means all been arrested (see No. 80)	229
528	Sir G. Buchanan	273 Te	" 23	Second Balkan war. Turkish counter-proposals. Minister of Foreign Affairs appears to minimise encouragement given by Russian Government. Says Russian Government are not in favour of Turkish proposals, but if Powers do not decide to coerce Turkey, Russia will not actively intervene (see No. 529)	229
529	Consul-General Smart	16 Te.	" 23	Second Balkan war. Transmits telegram from Servant-in-waiting that Bulgarian squadron has left Dardanelles	230
530	To Sir H. Bax-Ironside " Sir R. Paget " Sir G. Barclay " Sir F. Elliot " Count de Salis	158 Tel. 112 Tel. 37 Tel 105 Tel 75 Te	" 23	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Instructions to urge Greek Government to accept opportunity to send delegates to Peace Conference (see Nos. 482 and 478, and Part X., No. 6)	230
531	To Mr. Carnegie	463	" 23	South Albania. Koritza and Argyro Castro. Mr. Hodgson says he does not believe will leave Koritza. Albania if Argyrocastro and Premeti are ceded to Greece and if Italy is told to withdraw. To leave Dodecanese to Greece. Sir E. Grey says Powers are pledged to withdraw their fleet as soon as Italians withdraw from islands	230

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533	To Sir R. Rodd	430	23.	Aegean islands. Sir E. Grey has reported to Italian Ambassador the questions of islands and of South Albanian frontier are interconnected. Italian Ambassador urges speedy settlement, saying that Greece does not really want Adrianople, but Yanina, Chimara and Samos	231
534	To Board of Trade		23.	Contracts of British subjects in territory [illegible] No. 84. Transmits copy of letter from Sir H. Harvey on subject. Suggests that Board of Trade should consult [illegible]	232
535	To Admiralty		23.	Anatolian railways: Position of Ottoman Government. Transmits [illegible] Sir H. Barclay's views. Foreign Office agree with these views	233
536	Sir E. Grey	694	24.	Second Balkan war: Situation at Adrianople. Has there been any intervention by Great Powers? Ottoman Government's action	233
537	Mr. Marling	627	7.	Expulsion of Greeks from Albania. Has left Durazzo. Turkish despatch to Sir E. Lamb protesting against Albanian regime. Does not consider Turkey has any interest in Albania	234
538	"	629	18.	Second Balkan war: Ottoman despatch to Powers on Greek occupation of Salonika. Has not thought it necessary to speak to Minister for Foreign Affairs	235
539	"	631	1.	Evacuation of Adrianople: Representations of Ambassadors. Has told Minister for Foreign Affairs that Ambassadors have reported to their Governments Grand Vizier's promise. Has not spoken to Minister for Foreign Affairs	236
540	Sir E. Lamb	461	16.	Second Balkan war: Albania. Powers to appoint commission to delimit frontiers. Austrian and Italian views. Russian, German and French views. Ambassadors' meeting	236
541	Sir E. Egerton	140	17.	Second Balkan war: Albania. Has received report of skirmish between Albanians and Montenegrins. Montenegrins withdrawn. Has protested against Montenegrin occupation of Albanian territory. Has also protested against Servian occupation of Albanian territory. Has asked for instructions	237
542	"	436	18.	Second Balkan war: Peace proposals. Sir E. Grey's account of conversation with Servian Minister. Servia will not withdraw from Albania. Has asked Servian Minister to explain Servian proposals	240
543	Mr. Marling	637	8.	Second Balkan war: Bulgarian attack on Turkish position. Has protested against Bulgarian action	240

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545	Sir G. Granville	267	23.	Second Balkan war: Turkish advance. Reports and speeches indicate intention of Ottoman Government to occupy Adrianople. Views of Ottoman statesmen. Suspicions of Bulgarian designs	243
546	Eastern Telegraph Company		23.	Cable service between Constantinople and Europe: Interruption of communication. Refusal of Ottoman Government to grant concession for new cable. Has protested against refusal. Has asked for instructions	244
54	[illegible] to Sofia	2 [illegible]	24.	Mr. Carnegie has had interview with King. Has impressed on him necessity of coming to terms with Turkey. Has pointed out that Bulgaria would be responsible for consequences if Adrianople were occupied by Bulgarian troops	246
548		18 Tel.	25.	Second Balkan war: Peace proposals. Austrian Minister at Athens has urged Greek Government to accept Turkish proposals. Has replied that Greek Government has accepted Turkish proposals. Has pointed out danger of occupation of Adrianople by Bulgarian troops. Has asked for instructions	246
549	Sir H. Barclay	1 Cor.	25.	Second Balkan war: Attitude of various Powers. Has had interview with Minister for Foreign Affairs. Is there any objection to Mr. Noble	247
550		8 Tel.	25.	Second Balkan war: Situation at Scutari. Transmits despatch from Mr. Ippen on Scutari. Has also sent copy to Vienna	247
551		3 Tel.	25.	Second Balkan war: Reference to No. 549. Mr. Noble has already left. Has asked him to come to Sofia on his way to London	247
552		313 Tel.	29.	Second Balkan war: Reference to No. 542. Proposals for peace. Has spoken to Turkish Ambassador	247
553		21 Tel.	29.	Second Balkan war: Bulgarian attack on Adrianople. Albania. Has asked whether Sir H. Barclay has been instructed to see Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs	247
554		322 Tel.	24.	Second Balkan war: Bulgarian attack on Turkish position. Has read to Ministers despatch from Bulgarian Minister at Constantinople, which had been communicated to Ottoman Government, stating that Bulgarian troops had been withdrawn. Has pointed out danger of occupation of Adrianople by Bulgarian troops. Has asked for instructions	248
5		21. Tel. Cipher Tel.	1.	Second Balkan war: Turkish advance. Refers to No. 5. King of Bulgaria's wife is dead. Bulgarian Minister has spoken to Sir H. Barclay. Has pointed out danger of occupation of Adrianople by Bulgarian troops. Has asked for instructions	248

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557	" "	319 Tel.	24.	Second Balkan war. Refers to No. 552 and other reports. Greeks, Servians and Montenegrins at Lagos, Dedeagatch, Ipsala and Kavalla have continued pillage and massacre of Turks, with 18 villages of Sophia see Nos. 545 and 605	249
558	Sir R. Paget	184 Tel.	24	North Albanian frontier. Withdrawal of Servian troops. Refers to No. 485. Servian Government instructed to withdraw troops from Albania as soon as peace is concluded, and have given assurances to this effect	249
559	"	185 Tel.	24	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 522. Servian Government refuse to negotiate with Turkey unless Turkish armies have left Adrianople	249
560	Sir F. Cartwright	148 Tel.	24.	Organisation of Albania. Refers to No. 505. Transmits confidential memorandum from Austria-Hungary regarding British proposals with regard to Scutari. Austria-Hungary prepared to agree to British proposals	249
561	" "	149 Tel.	24	Second Balkan war. Attitude of Austria-Hungary. No. 548. Transmits telegram from Count Berchtold to Austrian Ambassador in London	250
562	Sir F. Bertie	135 Tel.	24.	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 537. Greek Government intend to make no further attempt to make peace. Servian Government will probably do the same. But they consider it important to avoid any appearance of separate action. Refers to No. 538	250
563	"	136 Tel.	4	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 474. Reports Turkish war correspondents have been refused leave by Turkish authorities to visit Thrace. Also reports that Turkish troops have not withdrawn from Adrianople as had been promised to Powers by Turkey	251
564	"	137 Tel.	24	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 537. Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs has left Athens for Sofia to discuss Greek claim. Servian Greek to remain neutral while Servia and Greece from Bulgarian rule. Servians mainly Greeks in possession	251
565	" "	138 Tel.	24	Servo-Balkan war. Greek advance. Transmits communication to Secretary Admiralty to Director of Military Operations, stating that Greek Army has occupied Salonika and Janitza and is pursuing enemy to Doiran	251
566	Sir G. Barclay	135 Tel.	24.	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to Nos. 521 and 539. The Roumanian General Council has been instructed to discuss armistice	251

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567	Sir G. Barclay	136 Tel.	July 24, 1913	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 560. Deputy Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs states that he has no objection to communicating with London Government as to the points of peace programme and will approach the Powers on subject if Powers so desire	252
568		137 Tel.	24	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 552. Considers Powers should intervene to put an end to massacres and devastations. Austria-Hungary and Germany	252
569	Acting Consul-General Morgan	64 Tel.	4	Second Balkan war. Greek warships and wrecks have bombarded Kavalla	252
570	Sir F. Lascelles Mr. Carnegie Earl Granville Sir R. Rodd Sir H. Rumbold	153 473 288 291 255	24.	Anti-massacre telegrams. Report previous day's session of Parliament. Speeches in Commons. Turkish advance. Communication to Admiralty	252
571	To Mr. Marling	227	24	Refers to No. 548. Transmits copy of No. 548. Refers to No. 224. Sir H. Rumbold's No. 217. Recommends to speak to Turkish Government	251
572	M. Maroff (Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires at Sofia)		24	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Transmits telegram from Bulgarian Consul at Adrianople stating that Turks have seized Archipelago of Imbros, Lemnos, Samothrace and Tenedos, and have massacred Christian population. Turkish troops have not withdrawn from Adrianople	254
573			24.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Transmits text of note from Bulgarian Government to Powers protesting against Turkish violation of Treaty of London. Bulgarian Government will not consider themselves bound by Treaty of London	254
574	Admiralty	confidential	24	Transmits memorandum, with views of Admiralty, on proposal that Powers should agree to allow Greece to occupy Northern Epirus. Sir E. Grey is anxious to avoid any appearance of separate action by Great Britain, and would prefer that proposal should be made by Powers collectively	255
575	Delegates of Koritza		24	Northern Albanian frontier. Memorandum of decision of delegates appointed by Powers to settle frontier between Greek and Albanian districts	256
576	Servian Chargé d'Affaires		24	Second Balkan war. Prince Danilo Petrovitch has resigned his duties as Servian Minister at Vienna	257
577	Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires (M. Mincoff)		25	Second Balkan war. Atrocities. Protests against accusations of atrocities against Bulgarians and demands that atrocities reported in Part X., No. 22	257
578	Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty	Telegraphic	25	Evacuation of Scutari. Military forces of Powers, Austrian steamer, and French naval officers expected at Scutari before end of month	258
579	Mr. Marling	361 Tel.	25.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 617. Turkish Government has published telegram asserting that British consul at Adrianople has declared that Bulgarian soldiers have violated Christian girls. Suggests contradiction of statement in press. See Nos. 601 and 675	258

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580	Mr Marling	709 Tel.	July 25, 1913	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 527. Vice-consular reports massacres at Vidin and also where and describes Turkish troops as engaged in extermination of all Christians. (See No. 4.)	258
581	"	3?? Tel.	2	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Suggests that a vigorous protest against attitude of Turkish Government, pointing out impossibility of accepting their explanations, should be made at Constantinople. (See Nos. 577 and 582.)	258
582	Earl Granville	1?8 T.	2	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 578, and states that he has spoken to Turkish Ambassador in the sense suggested. Ambassador has replied that Turkish troops have not crossed Enos-Midia line.	259
583	Sir E. Ellis	92 Tel.	4	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Intends to inform Turkish Ministers that Powers have not entirely given up hope of finding some solution of Aegean question, but that delay will prove fatal to any such solution. Has had interview with Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs.	259
584	Sir F. Bertie	1?8 cod.	25.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. King of Roumania has telegraphed to Emperor pointing out danger of Turkish territory assigned to Bulgaria by Europe.	259
585	"	?09 Tel.	26	Second Balkan war. Communicates a note referring to No. 498 and states that orders have been sent direct from King's yacht withdrawal of Turkish troops may be expected.	259
586	"	1?? T.	25.	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 567. Roumanian Minister has been requested to inform Allied Governments that Roumania will be represented at Bucharest Conference.	260
587	"	41 Tel.	2	Second Balkan war. Roumanian views. Transmits note and memorandum for Powers and Mr. Marling's note stating that Roumanian cavalry will be present at Bucharest Conference.	260
588	Sir H. Paget	18? Tel.	2	Second Balkan war. Austrian views. Reports Prince of Wied's journey to Bucharest with Servian and Greek delegates and his Bulgarian colleague. Roumanian Government's notice of no peace negotiations with Turkey. Prince of Wied's opinion of military situation.	260
589	To Mr Marling	349 Tel.	2?.	Transmits for information Foreign Office telegram to Sofia on Old Style. Belief in unanimity of Powers on this point.	260
590	Mr. Erskine	138 cd.	2	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Reports that Greece should agree to Austrian proposals. (See No. 61.)	261
591	To Sir E. Egerton	10? Tel.	July 29, 1913	Second Balkan war. Military attaché to Greek army. Refers to No. 457. Instructions as to operations that he is recommended, also as to Greek Government's steps and as to reasons for these. (See No. 109.)	261
592	To Mr Carnegie Earl Granville Sir G. Barclay Sir E. Cartwright Sir R. Rodd	292 Tel. 282 Tel. 5?4 Tel. ?14 Tel. 225 Tel.	2	Arrangements for proposed joint meeting of conference of Ambassadors, and to consult regarding questions now pending. (See Nos. 3 and 5 and Inclosure in No. 3, and No. 189.)	26
593	To Earl Granville	?81 Tel.	2	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Has had interview with Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, who has handed him a note. Has replied that if Ottoman Government do not withdraw their troops from Enos-Midia line, they will be guilty of a breach of the Treaty of London. (See Nos. 582 and 592.)	262
594	To Sir E. Cartwright	23? T.	2	Greek accession to Treaty. Refers to No. 560. Thinks it unnecessary to take any further steps in the matter, but is ready to instruct Ambassador to sign protocol if proposed. Has received no answer to his communication to Greek Government. (See No. 583.)	262
595	To Sir E. Goschen	10	2	Turkish troops. Has spoken to Turkish Ambassador, who has promised to telegraph to Constantinople. Has received no answer to his communication to Turkish Government. Has called attention to the matter.	262
596		16?	2?.	Second Balkan war. Refers to No. 5?? and to his conversation with Ambassador. Is glad to hear that Powers are not going to withdraw from Scutari question. Has received no answer to his communication to Turkish Government.	262
597	To Sir F. Bertie	2	2?.	Second Balkan war. Turkish proposals. Cause of delay in receipt of Turkish note. Minister for Foreign Affairs has received note from King of Roumania. King of Roumania's opinion that Turkish Government will not accept Austrian proposals. Has telegraphed to Turkish Government. Has received no answer. Has had interview with Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs.	263
598	Mr. Lamb	34	2?.	Note Verbale from Turkish Legation. Has received from Servian Minister suggesting that certain questions may be settled on friendly basis. Has replied that Powers have left matter in hands of Ambassadors. Has received no answer.	264
599	To Sir C. Spring-Rice	41?	2?.	Treaty of London. Has had interview with Austrian Ambassador, who asks for extension of time limit of 30th May and for consideration of question of Aegean Islands. Sir E. Grey says he will consult Powers. Has received no answer.	265
600	Memorandum communicated to American Ambassador		2?.	Financial commission. Has received programme of commission's work as approved by Powers. Question of workmen's claims for increase will not come before Commission.	265

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602	Sir F. Cartwright	69	23	North Albanian frontier: Transmits communication from Sublime Porte expressing that Admiral Burnaby has accepted appointment as Governor over the Shalin and Shosm tribes: see No. 747	267
603		1 [illegible]	24	Organisation of Albania: Transmits note verbale from Austrian Legation of which substance was [illegible] No. 600	268
604	Austria, Embassy		9.	North Albanian frontier: Austrian proposals in Sublime Porte: Will communicated by Austrian Embassy account of [illegible] Sublime Porte will [illegible]	268
605	M. Sazonof to Count Benckendorff	Telegraphic	22 23,	Second Balkan war: Turkish attitude: Expressing hope that Powers will [illegible] Turkey will [illegible]	269
606	Sir H. Rax-Ironside	120 Tel.	25,	Second Balkan war: Turkish [illegible] No. 7: Turkish [illegible] Greeks at Viza: Servian [illegible] Servians [illegible] Roumania [illegible] see No. 605	270
607	"	121 Tel.	25	Second Balkan war: Turkish [illegible] Powers [illegible]	270
608	Count de Salis	114 Tel.	25	Second Balkan war: [illegible]	270
609	Sir H. Rax-Ironside	122 Tel.	26.	Second Balkan war: Turkish attitude: [illegible] No. 7: Turkish [illegible]	270
610	Earl Granville	149 Tel.	26	Mr. Bax-Ironside's telegram No. 122: Mr. Bax-Ironside [illegible] a joint [illegible] Vienna [illegible] Kortza to Vienna: [illegible]	271
611	Sir G. Barclay	142 Tel.	26	Second Balkan war: Peace proposals: Refers to No. 590: Roumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs [illegible] His Majesty's Government [illegible] Athens: Servia has [illegible] suspension of hostilities for four days: see No. 613	271

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613		144 Tel.	26,	Second Balkan war: Peace proposals: Communication to Roumanian Minister: No. 611 refers: Servia has only agreed to [illegible]	272
614	Sir F. Elliot	140 Tel.	26.	Second Balkan war: Peace proposals: Greek [illegible] Powers [illegible] Greece and Servia [illegible]	272
615	Sir A. Buchanan	275 Tel.	26	Armistice: [illegible] No. 2: Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs at [illegible]	272
616		276 Tel.	26	Second Balkan war: [illegible] Powers [illegible] Turkey [illegible] Servia [illegible] Roumania [illegible]	272
617	Mr. Mallet	Unnumbered	9	Second Balkan war: Turkish [illegible] Turkish [illegible] Turkey [illegible] Bulgaria [illegible] see Part XI No. 5	275
618	Count de Salis	145 Tel.	26.	Second Balkan war: [illegible] Powers [illegible] Roumanian [illegible] Turkish [illegible] Roumanian [illegible] see No. 605	273
619	Mr. Bertie	161 Tel.	27,	Second Balkan war: Turkish attitude: Egyptian [illegible] Foreign Affairs [illegible] Triple Entente [illegible] Russia [illegible] Italy [illegible] Italian [illegible]	274
620	" "	162 Tel.	28	Armistice: [illegible] Refers to Nos. 220 and 238: British Minister at Sofia instructed to make [illegible]	274
621	To Sir H. Bax-Ironside	154 Tel.	26	Second Balkan war: Turkish [illegible] refers: Sir E. Grey has warned Turkish [illegible]	274

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623		352 Tel.	26.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 581. Records conversation with Grand Vizier at Turkish occupation of Bulgaria has entirely changed situation and that Turkey cannot now accept proposal of His Majesty's Government in consequence of their action see Nos. 624, 634, 674	275
624	To Sir [illegible]	380 Tel.	26	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 623. Grand Vizier and Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs must be prevented from [illegible] see No. 634	275
625	No. [illegible]	364 Tel.	26	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 618. Gives the proposed communication to Porte. Considers that the occupation of Bulgarian territory by Turkish troops [illegible]	275
626	[illegible]	[illegible] Tel.	26	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Russian Ambassador at Constantinople [illegible] Powers, and forcible opposition against Turkey. Should [illegible] Grand Vizier's proposal rejected	276
627	[illegible]	365 Tel.	27	Turkish Constitution. Refers to No. 580. Sir A. Black says there is [illegible] but [illegible] Majesty's Government [illegible] Ambassador's [illegible] Majesty's Government [illegible] Ambassador's [illegible] see Nos. 628 and 629	277
628	Sir A. Black	[illegible] Tel.	27	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Secretary of State [illegible] Office [illegible] Ambassador [illegible] Powers and [illegible] see No. 637	277
629	[illegible]	122 Tel.	27	Second Balkan war. Advance of Turks. Secretary of State [illegible] Office hears that Turkish troops will shortly [illegible] Bulgaria	277
630	[illegible]	123 Tel.	27.	Aegean Islands. Refers to No. 595. Secretary of State [illegible] Powers in Paris [illegible] Has been [illegible]	277
631	[illegible]	94 Tel.	27	Aegean Islands. Refers to No. 595. Sir A. Lamb says that the Minister of Athens [illegible] Ambassador [illegible] Turkish [illegible] see Nos. 679 and 679	277

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633	Sir H. Barclay (Ironside)	324 Tel.	27	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Transmits telegram from consular agent at Bourgas stating that Russian warship "Kubanetz" has arrived there and [illegible] population and Turkish advance	278
634	Sir [illegible] Barclay	145 Tel.	27	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Bulgarian troops and [illegible] arrives at Lule-Burgas	278
635	Sir E. Grey	188	28.	Second Balkan war. Atrocities at Serres. Have no evidence of report in Daily Chronicle. [illegible] Ambassador [illegible] of massacre with details	278
636	[illegible]	180	28	Second Balkan war. Bulgarian Government will [illegible] Minister of the war made on the general situation	280
637	Sir [illegible] Barclay	71	28.	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Refers to No. 626. Roumania reply to Bulgaria to appeal for peace. Refers to No. 628 and to Sir A. Lamb's telegram No. 94 Roumanian claims, regarding [illegible] already occupied by Bulgaria. Bulgarian [illegible] to Lule-Burgas [illegible] to resist the Bulgarians	281
638	Sir E. Egerton	175	28.	Second Balkan war. Bulgarian atrocities. Refers to No. 635. Reports protests from various Greek towns against Bulgarian atrocities. Mussulman Deputy for Drama confirmed [illegible]	282
639	Sir G. Buchanan	228	28.	Second Balkan war. Transmits report from [illegible] at St. Petersburgh, [illegible] Bulgarian [illegible] by Russians and [illegible]	282
640	[illegible]	290	28	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs published a press [illegible] Russia, Balkan States and Turkey. See [illegible] Russia press Cossacks [illegible]	282
641	Sir H. Lee	1[illegible]	28.	Cretan affairs and elections. Refers to Part V. No. 416, and Part VIII No. 317. Reasons why [illegible] Government [illegible] of opinion that Zaimis and Mavromichalis candidatures ought to be [illegible]	283
642	Greek Minister (Mr. Rennie) to Sir A. Nicolson		25.	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Transmits two telegrams from Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs explaining attitude of Greek Government to [illegible] proposal	284
643	Austrian Ambassador (Count Mensdorff)		26.	Evacuation of Scutari. Admiral Negovan has been replaced by Admiral de Horry	285

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645	"	—	27,	Second Balkan war. Bulgaria attacks Greece. Transmits telegram from Greek Army near Kavalla reporting further Bulgarian excesses at Xanthi.	286
646	Turkish Ambassador Tewfik Pasha	—	28	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Communication from Turkish Ambassador regarding the occupation of Thrace as far as the Maritza.	286
647	Greek Minister M. Gennadius	—	28	Second Balkan war. Greek request that a statement may be made by Secretary of State for the Foreign Department in reply to a question in the House of Commons as to the attitude of His Majesty's Government with regard to the Greek occupation of Thrace. Refers to Treaty of Alliance between Greece and Turkey.	287
648	Admiralty	Confidential	28	Balkan States. Transmits copy of letter from Sir S. Cowan reporting progress of naval operations.	288
649	Mr. Max[illegible]	C. Tel.	27	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Minister of Foreign Affairs has informed Ambassador that Turkish troops will not advance beyond the Maritza. Refers to telegram No. 647.	288
650	Earl [illegible]	Tel. Tel.	28,	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. [illegible]. Communicates note received from Minister of Foreign Affairs. Has informed Minister that His Majesty's Government cannot express opinion as to Turkish occupation of Thrace.	288
651	Sir R. Rodd	351	28	Second Balkan war. Refers to No. [illegible]. Communicates note from Italian Government. Italian Government desires to maintain most friendly relations with Turkey.	289
652	Count de Salis	146 Tel.	28.	Second Balkan war. Has proposed to Turkish Government that Turkish troops should withdraw behind Maritza. Bulgarian Government has agreed to this. Advantageous that Turkish troops should withdraw before European Powers intervene.	289
653		117 Tel.	28.	Mediterranean. Movements of Italian warships. Italian Government has informed Sir R. Rodd that [illegible]	289
654	Sir R. Rodd	32[illegible] Tel.	28.	Second Balkan war. Armistice. Refers to No. [illegible]. Signor Giolitti says that Turkish Ambassador at Rome has informed Italian Government that Turkish troops have orders to withdraw behind Maritza. Bulgarian troops have orders to advance. Signor Giolitti says that attacks are systematically exaggerated. Begs no publication. See No. [illegible] in Part XI, No. 3.	289
655		32[illegible] Tel.	28.	Second Balkan war. Refers to No. 606. Armistice. Has spoken with Turkish Ambassador. Ambassador says that Turkish troops have orders to withdraw behind Maritza. Bulgarians are advancing. Severe fighting with Turks. Turks are reported to be looked. Servians at a standstill. Cholera spreading (see Part XI, No. 4 and 5).	290
656	Sir H. Rennie	327 Tel.	July 28, 1913	Second Balkan war. Roumanian advance. Transmits telegram from correspondent at Varna reporting rapid Roumanian troops in a strict and unopposed manner. Denies reports of Roumanian excesses.	290
657	To Sir F. Bertie, Sir A. Buchanan, Earl Granville, Sir F. Lascelles, Sir R. Rodd	293 Tel. 546 Tel. 285 Tel. 226 Tel. 226 Tel.	28,	Second Balkan war. Atrocities. Asks what reply Powers intend to give to Bulgarian request for temporary occupation of Constantinople. See Nos. 680, 681 and 684, Part XI, No. 2.	290
658	" Mr. Max[illegible]	344 Tel.	28,	Turkish atrocities. Refers to No. 642. Does not think His Majesty's Government should [illegible]	290
659	To [illegible]	492	28	Bulgarian demands. Italian Ambassador says that [illegible]	291
660	To British delegates at Peace Conference	—	28,	Communication of Secretary Treasury's No. 4 to Greek delegates at Peace Conference.	291
661	Mr. Maxwell to Mr. Ramsay	—	28,	Balkan War. Atrocities. Refers to No. 657 and 658. Has spoken further with Turkish Ambassador. Ambassador has telegraphed to Constantinople. See No. 687 and notes to request that no occupation may take place.	292
662	Mr. Maxwell to Sir F. Harvey	—	28	Balkan War. Communication. Expresses wish to see Bulgarian advance. Transmits extract from despatch from Military Attaché at Sofia, No. 27, of 26th, 27th July, regarding views of Bulgarian Government.	292
663	To Ambassador, Petrograd, Vienna, Rome, Constantinople	—	28.	Communication. Refers to No. 656. Has informed Russian Ambassador that Roumanian advance is not with consent of Great Powers.	293
664	Foreign Office Red Cross Society	—	28	Second Balkan War. Informs Society that Admiralty hospital ship Maine is available for Bulgarian sick and wounded in Salonika.	293
665	Mr. Goschen to Sir E. Grey	—	28.	Second Balkan War. Turkish armistice. Refers to No. 652. Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed British Ambassador at Constantinople that Bulgarian Government suggested that Russian Government should announce to Powers intention to take action against Turkey should Ottoman Government refuse to withdraw behind Maritza. Russian Government will not take any action in the matter.	293
666	Count de Salis	44	23.	Second Balkan war. Turkish proposals. Refers to No. 658. Transmits note from Austrian Legation at Montenegro [illegible] suspension of hostilities.	293
667	Sir F. Bertie	398	27	Financial Commission. Transmits despatch from Sir F. Bertie relative to special Servian claims.	294
668	"	399	27,	Financial Commission. Transmits despatch from British delegates at Commission, enclosing protocols of fourth and fifth meetings.	295

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670	Admiralty	Confidential	28.	Evacuation of Scutari. Transmits telegram from Sir Aubrey Smith giving proposed personal visit to three tribal strongholds	300
671	Austria Embassy		28.	Evacuation of Scutari. Note acknowledging that Admiral Burney was authorised to appoint an English Governor for the Catholic Malissori tribes. See No. 74	300
672	British Military Attaché		28.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Minute by Mr. Tilley regarding the question of the Turkish claim to the Islands in the Aegean	300
673	Sir G. Buchanan	411 Tel.	28.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Despatch from Constantinople. Refers to No. 628. Russian Government have been informed	301
674	Mr. Marling	368 T.	28.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 628. Inquiry as to whether Grand Vizier would be willing to make statement to the Powers with regard to intentions	301
675	"	369 T.	28.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 628. Inquiry as to whether Grand Vizier would be willing to make statement to the Powers with regard to intentions	301
676	"	370 T.	28.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 674. Grand Vizier has given assurances that Turkish troops will not occupy Adrianople	302
677	Sir H. Rumbold	147 Tel.	29.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 676. Sir H. Rumbold has spoken to Grand Vizier in the sense of the Marquess of Lansdowne's telegram No. 628. Grand Vizier has given assurances	302
678	Sir F. Elliot	149 Tel.	29.	Second Balkan war. Greek advance. Turkish claim to the Islands in the Aegean. Refers to No. 628. Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs has spoken to Mr. Rennell Rodd in the sense of the Marquess of Lansdowne's telegram	302
679	Sir R. Rodd	126 Tel.	29.	Second Balkan war. Turkish claim to the Islands in the Aegean. Refers to No. 628. Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs has spoken to Mr. Rennell Rodd in the sense of the Marquess of Lansdowne's telegram	302
680	Earl [illegible]	122 Tel.	29.	Second Balkan war. Turkish claim to the Islands in the Aegean. Refers to No. 628. Italian Government have received similar notes from Bulgarian Government but do not propose to answer. Secretary of State thanks Ambassador for communication	303

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682	"	104 Tel.	29.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Austrian Ambassador thinks that if Austria takes action against Turkey Austria will occupy Salonika. French Minister for Foreign Affairs is urging, privately at St. Petersburg, French Government not to be committed in final paragraph	303
683	Sir F. Cartwright	120 Tel.	29.	Organisation of Albania. Refers to No. 634. Austrian Minister for Belgrade has proposed a conference of Albanian notables for exchange of views. Austria suggests	304
684	"	121 Tel.	29.	Second Balkan war. Armistice. Refers to No. 667. Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs doubtful as to value of proposed communication	304
685	Acting Consul-General Morgan	70 Tel.	25.	Second Balkan war. Bulgarian atrocities. Instances of atrocities committed by Bulgarians in Macedonia. Is generally believed that Bulgarians have shown themselves worse than Turks. See No. 636	304
686	To Mr. Marling	368 T.	28.	Asiatic Turkey. Grand Vizier's reference to No. 676. Asks whether he will try to obtain more precise information from Turkish Government as to terms on which claim to Islands, &c., in Part XI No. 1	304
686*	Sir G. Buchanan, Paris, Sofia, Belgrade, Athens, Constantinople, Cetinje, Rome, Vienna, St. Petersburg, Berlin, Cettigne	114 Tel. 136 T.	29. 29.	Second Balkan war. Asks that measures for control of Bosporus and Dardanelles may be considered	305
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689	Proceedings of Ambassadors meeting		29.	Ambassadors conference. Proceedings of meeting of 29 July. Resolutions on examination of Armenian reforms and protection of minorities	306
690	Mr. Ramsay Treasury to Mr. Maxwell		29.	Financial Commissioners. Cyprus revenues and Egyptian tribute. Refers to No. 275. Treasury considers conditions of 1881 and 1894 see Part X No. 86	307
691	Admiralty	Confidential	29.	Evacuation of Scutari. Transmits two telegrams from Sir E. Barney requesting withdrawal of Servian troops from Scutari and announcing arrival of Italian and Austrian troops	308
692	Austrian Embassy		29.	North Albanian frontier. Withdrawal of Servian troops. Note regarding correspondence with Servian Government on subject and assuring immediate withdrawal	309

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694	Russian Ambassador (Count Benckendorff)	Confidential	30,	Second Balkan war: Turkish advance. Communicates telegram from M. Sazonof, [illegible] from [illegible] warning to Turkey	311
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699	"	3[illegible]	31	Second Balkan war: Turkish advance. [illegible]	3[illegible]
700	Sir G. Barclay	148 T[illegible]	31	Second Balkan war: [illegible] see Part XI [illegible]	[illegible]3
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702	Sir F. Cartwright	122 Tel. Most Conf.	30,	Second Balkan war: [illegible] that Greeks have recently [illegible] meeting with [illegible] Austrian [illegible] secret [illegible] agreement [illegible] Bulgarian troops have been [illegible] from Servian to Greek front	[illegible]13
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714	Mr. Marling	645	21,	Second Balkan war: Turkish advance. Atrocities. Transmits extract from private letter and two reports of special delegation from Armenian Patriarchate on massacres at Rodosto. Evidence that Turkish Government [illegible] deliberately [illegible]	318
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727		1084	26	Second Balkan war. Transmits telegram from Greek Government stating that Turkish troops have entered Adrianople. Refers to No. [illegible]	337

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729	Sir F Elliot	149	26.	Cretan customs. French consul-general at Canea states that new tariff only applies to Greek goods. Mons. M. is of opinion that time for protest past. Enquires instructions. See Part X., No. 183	340
730	Sir R Rodd	145	28.	Aegean islands. Stampalia. Refers to No. 91. Asks whether there have been any further notification to press drawing more particularly to Stampalia	340
731	Treasury		30	Financial commissioners of Cyprus recommend letters of part IX., No. 57. Transmits Treasury minute and enclosures	341
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733	Sir H Rumbold-Ironside	328 Tel	31.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 664. Has left London on behalf of King of Bulgaria, and expresses hope that Powers will [illegible]	344
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735	Sir G Buchanan	140 Tel	31.	Second Balkan war. Peace proposals. Transmits summary of proceedings of conference. Powers [illegible]	345
736	Earl Granville	124 Tel.	31	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Refers to No. 707. German Government [illegible]	345
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738	Sir F Elliot	144 Tel	31	Second Balkan war. Atrocities. Refers to No. 681. Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs [illegible]	345
738*	To Sir H Rumbold-Ironside	139 Tel	31	Second Balkan war. Refers to No. 644. Red Cross section [illegible]	346
739	To Mr Marling	862 Tel	31.	Second Balkan war. Turkish advance. Atrocities. Refers to No. 715. Approves action	346

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74	To Sir F. Bertie	468	31	Turkish guarees Tophane lands. Refers to No. 160. Transmits No. 744. Instructs him to ascertain French Government support Quay Company's concession (see Part XI. No. 736)	346
742	To Earl Granville	243	31	Sends Memorandum from Greek Legation on Turkish Armies to No. 744. Instructs Ambassador to take proposal into consideration	347
743	To Austrian, German, French, Russian and Italian Ambassadors			Memorandum left at Foreign Office to communicate Note from Greek Minister at Constantinople relative to Turkish Armies in Thrace (see Part XI. Nos. 319 and 320)	347
744	To Sir F. Cartwright. Sir R. Rodd	155 96	31	South Albania. Frontier and Epirus affairs. Sends Grey his explanations of view of part to be taken and line to be suggested. Has Ambassador declares no evacuation. Rodd to see Minister and ascertain if Greek Government see No. 743	348
745	To Sir F. Cartwright	156	31	Mytilene's evacuation. Transmits memorandum from Austria. Is meeting of Ambassadors this morning. Minister at Athens left Mytilene at 6 P.M.	349
746	To Sir H. Rumbold	116	31	Special talks with Greek proposals. Venizelos to-day. Master asks His Majesty's Government to tell Greece to cease war or else Cavalla. Says they cannot stop Greek fleet. Asks to do the best to ask Bulgaria to intervene with Turkey	349
747	To Admiralty		31	Intervention. Sends Transmits No. 602 and 21 Inclosure. Asks to express the satisfaction of Sir Edward Grey for the decision	350

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Turkish War

PART X.

[30051 No. 1

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 130.)

Sir, *Athens, June 21, 1913.*

I HAD the honour to receive this morning your telegram No. 94 of yesterday instructing me to express the hope that the Greek fleet would not interfere with the Turkish ships which are transporting Turkish troops from the Yemen to the Dardanelles. On my speaking in that sense to M. Coromilas his Excellency said that he had already explained the view of the Greek Government to their legation in London, and would be so again. The transports were free to go to Beirut or Smyrna, and would be allowed to pass through the Dardanelles if the Turkish Government gave the slightest intimation of a desire to begin negotiating for a definitive treaty of peace. Up to the present they have made no sign. He referred to the statement your telegram is to the Turkish delegates in London having offered to restore the *status quo ante bellum* and the Greek delegates having insisted upon the *status quo ante* 1897. The Turkish delegates may undertaken to declare, on signing the preliminaries of peace, that all treaties and conventions in force on the morrow of the declaration of war should recover their validity from the resumption of relations, and at the moment of signature declined to fulfil their promise, a fact which was duly recorded in the protocol.

As a matter of fact, even the *status quo ante* 1897 would not suffice for the definitive treaty, for it left untouched the question of islands Italy and other important points which had been among the principal causes of friction between Greece and Turkey for so many years and when it was essential to take this opportunity of settling once for all.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT.

[30052 No. 2

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 130.)

Sir, *Athens, June 24, 1913.*

THE three following Royal decrees are published in the 'Official Gazette,' dated the 21st instant, and distributed to-day:—

1. Providing for the appointment of a substitute for a Governor General or General Administrative Commissioner of territories in the occupation of the Greek army and fleet.

2 Appointing as substitute for the Governor-General of Crete M G Plaisance, Procureur-General of Crete

3 Transferring the Governor-General of Crete M Pierre Drageamis, as Governor-General to Macedonia

The murder of M Rutivan at Salonica appears not to have been entirely successful He will return to Athens and resume his functions as Minister of Justice

In reporting the appointment of M Leonidas, a member of the Cretan executive committee in November 1911, Mr West-Shaw described him as "a very respectable official"

I have, &c
F ELLIOT

[30188.

No 2

Correspondence respecting the Greek Loan of 1824

Sir *Treasury Chambers, January 20, 1913.*

I HAVE had under consideration with the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Sir L Mallet's letter of the 21st April last, in which Secretary Sir E Grey invites the observations of their Lordships as to the proposal by the International Financial Commission at Athens that the sum payable annually by His Majesty's Government in favour of the Greek Loan of 1824 under the Treaty of the 29th March 1864 should be capitalized

In considering this proposal their Lordships have had in mind the following observations of Sir E Hamilton, the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, in a minute dated the 4th December 1912, in which he reviewed the case at the request of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

The history of the Greek Government Loan of 1824 is well known to the Foreign Office and to the Secretary of State, with whom it rests to say what form of capitalization is the more suitable [p 18]

Pursuant to the arrangements of the 7th May 1832 Great Britain, France and Russia engaged to guarantee each one-third of a Greek loan not exceeding 60,000,000 francs (2,400,000*l*) at 5 per cent, the Greek Government undertaking to create a sinking fund of 1 per cent per annum for the redemption of the loan

As the charge for the whole loan would be 3,000*l* per annum, viz 5 per cent for interest and 1 per cent for sinking fund, and as only two-thirds of the loan was guaranteed by Great Britain, the annual payment to be made by the British Government was 2,000*l* being the interest and sinking fund of 1,200*l* on 24,000*l* at 5 per cent, and 800*l* being the interest and sinking fund of 1,200*l* on 16,000*l* at 5 per cent, the remaining 400*l* being the interest and sinking fund of 800*l* on 16,000*l* at 5 per cent, which was not guaranteed by Great Britain

The loan was issued in August 1824, and was contracted for at the rate of 59 per cent, but only 55 per cent was actually received by the Greek Government, the difference of 4 per cent being retained by the contractors to cover their commission and other charges

Owing to the failure of the Greek Government to make substantial payments under the guarantee

Owing to the guaranteeing Powers refusing, from pressing political reasons, to enforce their claim to repayment of the amounts so advanced, and from other causes, a series of negotiations took place between Great Britain and Greece, which resulted in the Treaty of the 29th March 1832, by the terms of which Greece undertook to pay to Great Britain, France and Russia, in equal proportions, the sum of 472,000*l* sterling, in full discharge of the debt due to them on account of the guaranteed loan of 1824 and of the interest thereon

Under the Treaty of the 29th March, 1832, the debt after the accession of King George I to the throne of Greece, the three guaranteeing Powers engaged to relinquish, as a personal obligation towards the Civil List of the new Sovereign, one-third of the amount which Greece had undertaken to pay in 1832, but had thus far paid in respect of the guaranteed loan.

Pursuant to this arrangement, which so far as this country was concerned was ratified by the Act 27–28 Vict, c 40, the British share of the reduced annual payment made by Greece became 200,000 francs, or say, 8,000*l* a-year, and this sum has been paid regularly since

When the loan was finally discharged in 1871 Great Britain had paid in fulfilment of the guarantee—

	£	s	d
In aggregate sums of not less than	1,351,672	8	0
As the British Government did not any receive from Greece	28,397	4	0
The balance owing was	1,323,275	4	0
Against this fell to be set the amount accomplished reservoir of the King of the Hellenes under the Act 1864 viz 4,000*l* per annum for foreign years 1871–1871 inclusive	32,000	0	0
So that the debt outstanding at 31st December 1912 was	220,674	4	
Since that date His Majesty's Government have received from the Greek Government up to 31st December, 1912	889,39	0	8
The total repayments in favour of the King of the Hellenes has amounted to	164,000	0	0
These sums amount in total of	1,053,739	7	8
So that the amount due from the Greek Government at 31st December 1912 exclusive of any charge for interest was	297,934	16	4

Abortive negotiations took place in the years 1833-5 with a view to the redemption of the outstanding debt, and in 1848 His Majesty's Government had negotiations with the Governments of France and Russia jointly and severally, to agree to a settlement

My Lords will turn to the question how and in what circumstances it should be decided that the payment of 8,000*l* per annum is to be discontinued under the arrangements of 1864

Secretary Sir E Grey will find attached to Article 6 of the Treaty of 1864 and section 2 of the Act 27–28 Vict c 45, a letter perfectly clear as to the engagement was personal to King George I This was declared in the House of Lords expressly on the understanding given by the Powers that the payments should cease on the demise of His Majesty King George I and section 2 authorises the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury to relinquish in favour of the King's heirs or successors the sum of 4,000*l* a-year

Of the four alternatives which His Majesty's Government have to consider, viz (1) the arrangement of 1864 not to be finally expired, and the obligation of the Greek Government to be engaged to 1881 to make payment to the three Powers 1,000,000 francs per annum in all, or 300,000 francs to each payment, and their Lordships for their part can see no sufficient reason why this Government should not adhere to that engagement

Ever since the guarantee of 1832 His Majesty's Government have shown great forbearance and generosity towards the Government of Greece, and it appears to their Lordships that His Majesty's Government may now fairly claim that the circumstances of the past that there will be no call for the payment of 8,000*l* per annum agreed to in 1864 should form to the extent of the contribution of the Hellenic Government Indeed one of the reasons for this contribution is, perhaps, still to point out that at 31st December last forty-seven years after the loan of 1833 had been paid off the debt outstanding from Greece on account of the advances made by Great Britain under the guarantee was, as shown above, 723,9340, 16s 4*d* without any allowance for interest, and that an annual payment of 12,000 would practically be 1·66 per cent on that amount, and would not discharge the debt (with all interest) for sixty years.

In arriving at this conclusion their Lordships have made full allowance for the financial difficulties with which the Government of Greece is confronted in consequence of the war

In view of these difficulties, which are temporary and with the re-establishment of peace in the Balkan peninsula should soon disappear, their Lordships have refrained from suggesting that any proposal should be made at the present time, with a view to increasing the payment to be made by Greece above the amount agreed to in 1864. But at least that amount should in future be paid henceforth to this country, and opportunity should be taken, as soon as the finances of Greece permit, to press for a larger annual contribution and the speedy redemption of the debt.

I am, &c
ROBERT CHALMERS.

[30087] No. 1

Admiralty (Foreign Office.)—Received July 1.

(Confidential.)

Admiralty, June 30, 1913.

Sir,

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram dated the 30th instant, relative to affairs in Albania.

I am, &c.

W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Vice-Consul Scott Barnes to Admiralty.

June 30, 1913.

(Telegraphic.)

ALBANIAN chiefs are dissatisfied because international government has not yet been extended to interior. They consider it essential to the welfare of Albania that future government of the country should be settled without delay. It is reported to me to-day that the powers are only concerned with Scutari, and if this is so, chiefs consider all efforts useless.

I am endeavouring to keep the Northern Albanian tribes quiet by efforts with many of them, and advising them to form a temporary local government, urging them simultaneously to send to Scutari for advice when all hostilities cease.

[30047. No. 2

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 162.)

(Telegraphic.)

Belgrade, June 30, 1913.

MY immediately preceding telegram of 30th June.

The Bulgarian Government contend that fighting was provoked by Servians, and the Bulgarian Minister has handed in a protest here rejecting all responsibility.

It is threatening Belgrade for the present.

Sent to Sophia and Bucharest.

[30166 No. 3

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 163.)

(Telegraphic.)

Belgrade, July 1, 1913.

MY telegram No. 161 of 30th June.

Vice-consul Cassoul reports Chevghen statements taken by Bulgarians.

[30152] No. 4

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 164.)

(Telegraphic.)

Belgrade, July 1, 1913.

PRIME Minister states, just to hand, that fighting still continues. He states that there are 200,000 men engaged on Bulgarian side, and admits that Servians have already lost 1,400 killed and wounded. The Servian Government consider that they are already at war, although war has not yet been declared. They are indignant at protest of Bulgarian Minister referred to in my telegram No. 162 of 30th June, and at perfidy of Bulgarians in trying to throw the blame on them. So far as I can gather from various accounts, Bulgarians were, in fact, the aggressors. The Prime Minister said that in these circumstances it appeared to him a matter very little whether Skupshtina voted in favour of unconditional arbitration by Russia or not. He could not say what the outcome of debate proceeding this morning would be.

(Sent to Sophia and Bucharest.)

[30205 No. 5

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 165.)

(Telegraphic.)

Belgrade, July 1, 1913.

PRIME Minister in his statement before Skupshtina yesterday, after recapitulating negotiations which had taken place between Bulgaria and Servia, and after setting forth the circumstances of present situation, declared that Servian Government had accepted to submit to arbitration of Emperor of Russia, after assuring itself that this arbitration would be on a broad basis including all considerations in connection with treaty, and that Graeco-Bulgarian differences were left out of consideration. At the same time he stated that Bulgaria, concerning vital interests of Servia, had been submitted to Emperor of Russia and Russian Government.

An opposition deputy moved a resolution to the effect that [illegible] could not be entrusted with question of such vital importance to Servia, and that annexation of disputed territory should be proclaimed.

Result of debate is still unknown this evening.

[30206 No. 6

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 1.

(No. 98.)

(Telegraphic.)

Vienna, July, 1913.

FOLLOWING from military attaché for Director of Military Operations:—

Following from Bulgarian sources:

'Accounts of recent fighting near forts are greatly exaggerated. Main bodies of armies have not been engaged. No news at Bulgarian Headquarters of capture of Gnevgheli.

'Position of Bulgarian first army is not known, but task given it is to occupy defensive position to south-west, in direction of Adrianople. Bulgarian 1st division, composed of Macedonian levies, is 40 to 50 strong.

[30195] No. 10

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 271.)

(Telegraphic.)

Sofia, July 1, 1913.

MY telegram No. 131 of 30th June.

Headquarters staff's account. Cut instructions were sent to Bulgarian forces under no circumstances to attack Servians.

Memorandum of Bulgarian case, which had been requested by the Russian Government, was to be sent to Russian Minister at once.

Telegraphic passenger service to Bulgaria interrupted.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[30279 No. 11

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 257. Secret.)

(Telegraphic.)

Sophia, July 1, 1913.

PRIME Minister has been threatened with death by certain Macedonian leaders of the gone to St. Petersburgh without assurances referred to in my immediately preceding telegram of 1st July.

Threat is taken seriously. Macedonians are under control of Stambolovist party who are pro Austrian, and in some cases in Austrian pay.

[30193] No. 1[a]

Sir G. Lecky to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July)

No. 65
(Telegraphic) *Constantinople, July* 1, 1913.

FOLLOWING from consular officer at Salonica, dated 30th June:—

'At 6.30 this evening 30th June Greek soldiers attacked the house in which Bulgarian soldiers are lodged here.

Fighting still continuing at 10 P.M., but is more restricted.'

(Sent to Sofia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[30194] No. 2

Sir G. Lecky to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July)

No. 3
Telegraphic. *Constantinople, July* 1, 1913.

FOLLOWING from consular officer at Salonica, dated 30th June:—

'General impression left by strictly truthful morning Bulgarian soldiers have driven back Greek and Servian detachments which had occupied important bridges on Gheyghelli Railway on line Salonica-Uskub interrupted.

'Yesterday the Bulgarians drove western Greek detachment out of Lefkera, near Cavalla.

'Greeks constructed strong defensive works at Strumitza on their Serbian frontier. Some have refused to work. Isolated instances of hatred of Greeks by Bulgarians have taken place in the streets. Street fighting stopped this morning.

[30192] No. 3

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July)

(No. 1058)
(Telegraphic) *Athens, July* 1, 1913.

THE Bulgarian Minister has left Athens for Nigrita. Bienvo, Karasouli. At two o'clock yesterday Bulgarians had fallen back

[illegible] Bulgarians had [illegible] Lake Doiran.

The Bulgarian Minister yesterday offered a protest against Servian and Greek aggression. On the contrary the Greek Government hold that all evidence proves a long-considered scheme on the part of the Bulgarians.

30254] No. 4

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 69)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July* 1, 1913.

FOLLOWING from acting consul-general at Salonica this afternoon:—

'Bulgarians attacked 5th Greek corps in battle yesterday at Mount Pragana. Greeks have retired across Struma.

'Fighting is also going on near Langaza. Bulgarians may be at Salonica in twenty-four hours and disorders are to be feared.'

Prime Minister, who gave me the information reported in my immediately preceding telegram at 1 o'clock to-day, has also had communication with Salonica by wireless telegraphy and has nothing of heavy losses, and is obviously not uneasy.

30581 No. 5

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

No. 153.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 1, 1913.

AT the meeting with Ambassadors to-day it was ascertained that the Russian and Austrian Governments had come to an agreement about the interpretation to be given to the neutral port as well as Servia's access to the Adriatic was to be provided. This interpretation having been communicated to the meeting by the Austrian and Russian Ambassadors the following resolution was drawn up:

'Sur la déclaration relative au chemin de fer international et au port neutre de l'Albanie que les Puissances ont prise l'engagement de faire observer au Gouvernement serbe la résolution rendue par Sir E. Grey sera chargé de confirmer au nom des six Puissances au Chargé d'Affaires de Serbie la résolution prise à la réunion des Ambassadeurs, le 17 Décembre, 1912, [illegible] suivante:

Un accès convenable sera réservé à la Serbie par un port de commerce libre et neutre à désigner par elle sur la côte septentrionale de l'Albanie, sous la souveraineté et sous la garde exclusive de forces albanaises, et elle aura le droit pour tous les marchandises y compris les munitions de guerre.

Sir E. Grey portera à notre connaissance l'interprétation [illegible] relative déclaration en vigueur par les six Puissances.

Cette résolution est ainsi conçue:

'*Interprétation*

'1. Neutralisation spéciale du port

Sur la demande de l'Autriche-Hongrie, la Serbie consent à ce que tout ce qui a trait au régime spécial du port de commerce libre et neutre à accorder à la Serbie, ainsi qu'à la voie ferrée internationale devant être ouverte à son usage, fasse l'objet d'une convention spéciale qui sera conclue entre la Serbie et l'Albanie.

'2. Chemin de fer international. Liberté de transit

Les six Grandes Puissances signataires, la Serbie et l'Albanie pourront percevoir aux points extrêmes de la voie ferrée internationale pour le trafic à l'importation et à l'exportation du commerce de leur ressortissants respectifs les droits de douane, taxes, octrois et autres droits de douane qui pourront être établis par le tarif douanier albanais, elles pourront aussi percevoir les droits relatifs au transit.

'De l'libre usage de ce chemin de fer international et du port sera garanti par les six grandes Puissances signataires à tous les États sur le même pied et sous les mêmes conditions et en tout temps.

'3. Contrôle et garde du chemin de fer

'Le contrôle international sera exercé par un assistant européen des représentants des six Grandes Puissances, de la Serbie et de l'Albanie sur le statut du contrôle prévu dans l'article 8 de la Convention de Stoz, 1880, avec la modification exigée par la différence de la situation.

'La garde du chemin de fer sera confiée à la gendarmerie, à la milice ou à toute autre force publique albanaise, sous le contrôle européen des six Grandes Puissances.

'4. Transit de munitions de guerre

La liberté de transit des matériaux de guerre ne devant pas, d'après les principes en principe le droit de visite et de prise à l'égard de tous les bateaux de commerce avant leur entrée dans le port desservi par le chemin de fer international, est reconnu aux États belligérants.

'En même temps, Sir E. Grey rappellera au Chargé d'Affaires de Serbie la communication verbale faite le 11 mars dernier et qui a été retirée le 29 mars à Belgrade en insistant sur la nécessité de procéder sans délai à l'occupation des territoires attribués à l'Albanie.

'Une communication identique sera faite au Gouvernement monténégrin.

[a] Also to Sir F. Bertie (No. 418), Sir E. Goschen (No. 213), Sir R. Rodd (No. 168) and Sir G. Buchanan (No. 241).

Sir E. Grey proposed then, failing an agreement between the representatives of Powers, that they should refer to their Governments for instructions for the settlement of the question, as he suggested in his despatch to Sir F. Cartwright of June 1, and that the evacuation of the territories in dispute should be ordered.

The Austrian Ambassador then stated that his Government could not find that the arrangements which they had made to the protection of minorities in the territories in question sufficiently met the case. They would, therefore, that the organisation of the territories should be postponed as it stood, reserving to the Governments of the Powers concerned their engagement to their interpretation.

The Russian Ambassador stated that his Government were prepared to agree that the Commission should consider the question of the interpretation of the Treaty of London.

Upon this Count Berchtold declared that Austria-Hungary would maintain the arrangement with Servia concerning the Albanian territories, as interpreted by the Powers, and that Russia and Austria-Hungary were taking the same position in regard to the question of the protection of minorities. It was agreed that the Ambassadors should report to their respective Governments the result of the meeting.

The Austrian Ambassador then gave an interpretation which he said was agreed upon between himself and the Russian Ambassador at St. Petersburgh, of the following resolution, which was thereupon read:—

"The Conference, while affirming the principle of the resolution of the 23rd July, 1913, which recognises the right of Albania to the territories left to her by the Treaty of London, and while maintaining the integrity of the Treaty of London, is prepared to consider the question of the interpretation of the Treaty of London."

Sir E. Grey then suggested that the words "the question of the interpretation of the Treaty of London" should be left out, and that the resolution should read as follows:—

"The Conference, while affirming the principle of the resolution of the 23rd July, 1913, which recognises the right of Albania to the territories left to her by the Treaty of London, is prepared to consider the question of the interpretation of the Treaty of London."

The Austrian Ambassador then stated that he was ready to accept this resolution, but that he must refer to his Government before he could agree to it.

Sir E. Grey then suggested that the Ambassadors should meet again on Monday, June 2, at 2 P.M., when the Austrian Ambassador would be able to say whether his Government accepted the resolution.

The proceedings then terminated.

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The proceedings then terminated.

une loi générale également applicable sur toute l'étendue et dans les habitants du Royaume de Serbie, respectivement du Monténégro.

"4. Les habitants de l'Albanie auront le plus longtemps la coutume d'envoyer leurs troupeaux dans les montagnes, pacages, [illegible] et prairies des territoires cédés. La Serbie et le Monténégro garantissent les [illegible] dans ces territoires, continueront à y assurer les mêmes droits comme sur les passages, comme entrave et sans avoir à payer [illegible] sur ces objets.

"5. Les mesures de [illegible] prises par le Gouvernement serbe, respectivement [illegible] grimes envers [illegible] la population [illegible] pourront [illegible] en cas d'appel par [illegible] aux Alliés."

The Austrian Ambassador mentioned the question of Mount Athos.

The Russian Ambassador said that he could not [illegible] previous resolutions [illegible] on whether valid.

I suggested that [illegible] was presumably [illegible] of the reported Russian [illegible] of Mount Athos to the Austrian Ambassador [illegible] the position, the Russian Ambassador [illegible] to report to St. Petersburgh what the Austrian Ambassador had said.

The Austrian Ambassador assented.

The next meeting of the Ambassadors will be on Monday, the 9th instant.

I am, &c.

E. GREY

[30606] No. 17

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright

(No. 134)

Sir, *Foreign Office, June 1, 1913.*

THE Austrian Ambassador to-day left with me a note in reply to the communication which I had made about the organisation of Albania that his Government maintained their view that the question of Albanian administration should be left entirely to Albania. It seemed to his Government that, apart from this point of principle, it would not be more easy to accept than a solution that corresponded to the wishes of Albania as a provisional form, then to settle the matter definitely. It might be foreseen that the difficulties that had been raised in certain quarters during earlier phases of the Albanian question would be revived when an attempt was made to establish a provisional system, and that this attempt might meet with unacceptable proposals. This would be a situation that the Austrian Government could not admit.

If the *reunion* of Ambassadors called its work before the final settlement of the Albanian question, the present *status quo* in Albania would continue as long as the situation in the country did not oblige Austria in accordance with Italy to assume a different attitude in view of future events. In such an event all the two Powers would have to reserve to themselves complete liberty of action.

As to the administration of Albania to the south and south-east the Austrian Government maintain the following principles:—

I. The Albanian coast must extend to Chimara.

II. Koritza and its territory must be assigned to Albania.

III. A representative of Roumania should be able to [illegible] *reunion* when it will have to pronounce upon the fate of the Vlachs of Pindus.

As long as these three principles were not accepted, it appeared to Count Berchtold to be premature to speak of the conditions under which he would be ready to agree that the rest of the frontier should be fixed by an international commission. However Count Berchtold, while [illegible] respecting the Vlachs, did not hesitate to say that *after* the acceptance of the three principles mentioned above, the conditions under which he would accept a commission would consist of the following guarantees:—

1. For every concession made to Greece at the expense of the minimum frontier proposed by Austria-Hungary and Italy, Greece should make a concession in the question of the islands.

2. The international commission should be allowed to assign to Greece only such territory as was inhabited by a Greek majority. In ascertaining this majority, the

commission should proceed solely according to the ethnographical principle of the other frontiers, without taking account of small Greek enclaves.

4. All pressure on the part of the Greeks on the population should be eliminated before the commission begins its work.

4. The work of the commission should begin and be finished at dates fixed in advance.

5. Before the commission acts the Greeks should have evacuated the town of Koniza, the coast to the north of Tsamuria, and the island of Sasseno.

6. The commission should proceed according to the principle of zones: district by district and progressively as it arrived at its decisions as the Greeks should evacuate and the Turkey all the territory that was assigned to Albania.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

29287] No. 18.

Foreign Office to Eastern Telegraph Company.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 1, 1913.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, enquiring whether the statement which was recently asserted in the press on behalf of this Office, that the concessions granted by British subjects for the collection of the tithe in respect of the enterprises recently undertaken by Turkey in the Balkan States appear to be concessions granted exclusively to foreign capitalists, or whether any new concessions by Greece have been given to the representatives of the Allies.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

30214 No. 1

Sir E. Goschen to Sir E. Grey.—(Received July 2.)

No. 60.

Sir, *Constantinople, June 25, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, for Your Majesty's consideration, a Memorandum reporting the result of the examination by the Servian authorities lodged to establish the complicity of Hadji Adil Bey.

I have, &c.
(For Mr. Goschen) WITHER.

Enclosure in No. 1.

Vice-Consul Gray to Sir G. Buchanan.

No. 57. Confidential.

Sir, *Uskub, June 18, 1913.*

WITH reference to the last paragraph of my Despatch No. 55 of the 22nd March last I had the honour to report as follows:

Feeling against the Bulgarians runs very high in all ranks in the army here. It is said that several officers have been degraded for showing this feeling openly, and that especially during the Conference in London the Minister of the Crown Prince of Servia

[illegible] officers received letters from Servia which has since been [illegible] Monastir they were not to hurry on actual fighting.

From the representative of the Servian Ministry of Foreign Affairs I have since received information concerning the execution of a military party sworn in against the Government of the country by the Servian troops. My informant tells me that more than 4000 officers including several generals, have

taken such an oath, and that the Crown Prince is entirely in sympathy with the movement. He professes to consider that in order to demonstrate his views would not be generally approved in the event of concessions being made by the Servian Government.

I have, &c.
C. A. GREIG.

[30217 No. 2

Sir E. Goschen to Sir E. Grey.—(Received July 9.)

No. 76.)

Sir, *Constantinople, June 21, 1913.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 58 of the 18th instant, concerning the murder of Mahmoud Shevket Pasha, I have the honour to report that sentence of the court-martial, twelve accused having been sentenced to death, was executed this morning.

The executions were

Djemal Sami Pasha, [illegible] of the Sultan and son of the former Grand Vizier Hamid Pasha,

[illegible] Bey, [illegible] Commandant of the three Ranges at the Malakoff Battery, respectively Nos. 1 and 2 of the 7th Division,

Lieutenant-Colonel [illegible],

Colonel [illegible] B.,

[illegible] Fevzi, Agent of Police [illegible] Police,

[illegible] Fehmi, Director of the Political Department of the Police,

Major [illegible],

Mahdi Bey, ex-Director of the [illegible] Police,

Ismail, the brother-in-law of Mahmoud Shefket Pasha, [illegible] Ismail Sefik,

Abdullah Sefik,

Lieutenant [illegible],

Kemal [illegible].

Besides those executed we were convinced by [illegible] evidence that fifteen others had been implicated in the murder, and the Ministers of War and Justice could not refuse to sign the warrants for their execution.

Osman Sherif Pasha, resident at Pera, was author of the "Mecmouatette" [illegible] Constantinople, a monthly opposition journal, the publication of which naturally [illegible] impossible at Constantinople.

Fuad Shakir Bey, [illegible] Secretary of the Mahmoud Pasha Club, and one of the [illegible] of committees of the organisers of the Young Turk party movements during the reign of Abdul Hamid.

Riza Bey, ex-chief of Military Police, and Minister of the Interior under Said Pasha's last Cabinet.

Ismail Hakki Bey, ex-deputy for Gumuljina, a Thrace, and one of the regulars of the Committee of Union and Progress during the last eight years of the old regime.

Lieutenant-Colonel Zeki Bey.

Captain Mehmed Bey, and

Captain Ulkmet, the brother of Captain Kazim Bey, hanged this morning.

As the proceedings were by secret court-martial, there are no proper data for forming an opinion as to the nature of the trial. The president of the court was Lieutenant-General Redjeb Bey, a Salonica "Committee," and it is contrary to Ottoman and other military law that an officer of his rank should try the colleagues, his seniors of the rank of Lieutenant-General. Again, on Thursday last, *viz.*, before the actual trial, General Jemal Bey, military commander of the capital, summoned the representatives of the foreign telegraphic agencies here and exhibited to them some of the accused whom he styled "the assassins." Reuters' agent felt bound to remark that as the men had not been tried, they should be more properly called the "accused." To this Jemal Bey remarked, "I consider them assassins."

No matter what may have been the effects of procedure, it would appear that some of those condemned to death were the actual murderers of the late Grand Vizier, and that several of the others were at some degree connected with a plot to overthrow the present Government. The fact that many of those accused were "Jeunes Turcs" would seem to point to the main incentive being a desire to avenge the assassination of the

Cressar of General Nazim Pasha at Scutari on the 23rd January last. As the result of the latest crisis, the Government of Kiamil Pasha, with the full official sanction of the Powers, has undertaken the task of forcing upon the Porte the immediate evacuation of Adrianople by the Turkish troops, and generally takes the form of a demand that the provisions of the Treaty of London shall be forthwith carried into effect in their entirety. A further demand is also said to be included, having for its object the withdrawal of the Ottoman Navy from the Black Sea, coupled with the surrender of the Turkish fleet.

The authorities at the British Embassy were well aware of what was brewing, and had received advance information of most of the decisions of the Council, according to which the reoccupation of Adrianople by the Turkish troops, and the assassination of Talaat, Enver, Djemal, and the Grand Vizier Said Halim, were to be carried out. The new Minister of War, Mahmoud Shevket Pasha, who is also Minister of Marine, became Acting Minister of Marine on the resignation of Hadji Adil Pasha, in support of the statement that the Sultan had no part in the conspiracy, and that the assassination of Talaat, Enver, and Djemal was carried out entirely by the Committee of Union and Progress, the Grand Vizier, Said Halim Pasha, who is a member of the Imperial family, and a relative of the Sultan, was not arrested, but was allowed to remain in his house at Scutari under the surveillance of the police. The Sultan, who is a member of the Committee of Union and Progress, has been in close touch with the Grand Vizier throughout the crisis.

The Sultan, who is a member of the Committee of Union and Progress, has been in close touch with the Grand Vizier throughout the crisis

30326 No. 23.

Messrs. Francis and Johnson to Foreign Office.—(Received July 2.)

[illegible] Street, London
Sir, *July [illegible], 1913.*

[illegible] the French [illegible] the concert [illegible] onerous charges.'

Mr. [illegible] onerous charges,' [illegible] we have written to [illegible] by you.

We [illegible] by the Commission [illegible] the date [illegible] the outbreak of hostilities.

We [illegible] that Mr. Vesey Brown [illegible] the subject of this concession [illegible] the [illegible] of May last.

[illegible] Secretary, [illegible] which may be necessary [illegible] on our behalf.

We are, &c.
FRANCIS AND JOHNSON.

30388. No. [illegible]

[illegible]—(Received July [illegible].)

[illegible]
Sir, *[illegible], July [illegible], 1913.*

[illegible] Commissioners [illegible] for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs [illegible]

I am, &c.
W. [illegible] GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 24.

[illegible]

[illegible] *[illegible] 2, 1913.*

[illegible] Commissioners at Scutari should [illegible] from [illegible] extra [illegible]

[illegible] extra [illegible] which the [illegible] Commissioners [illegible]

30309] No. 2[illegible]

[illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 2.)

No. [illegible]
(Telegraphic.) *[illegible] July 1, 1913.*

[illegible] Scutari [illegible] with [illegible] evacuation of San Giovanni di Medua.

[illegible] Government [illegible] that they have contracts to sell large stock of [illegible] on 10th July [illegible]

loss on them. They wish to keep a force on the spot near [illegible] in order to guard [illegible].

[illegible] the vice-admiral [illegible] agreed [illegible] following effect, which the Montenegrin Government will accept:—

Montenegrin guard to be reduced [illegible] post [illegible] the Montenegrins wish to keep [illegible] the Montenegrin [illegible] Montenegrin authorities [illegible] of [illegible] should the [illegible] of [illegible]

30203 No. 26.

Sir [illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 2.)

No. 2[illegible]
(Telegraphic.) *[illegible], July [illegible], 1913.*

THE [illegible] Greeks and Servians [illegible] Bulgarian troops [illegible] Greek [illegible] fighting [illegible] between Greeks and Bulgarians [illegible]

30272 No. 2[illegible]

[illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 2.)

No. 2[illegible]
[illegible] *[illegible], July [illegible], 1913.*

YESTERDAY [illegible] Prime Minister [illegible] St. Petersburgh [illegible]

[illegible] Minister [illegible]

Ministerial crisis [illegible] Minister [illegible]

[illegible] Ministry [illegible] make for war.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[30209] No. 28.

[illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 2.)

(No. [illegible])
(Telegraphic.) *[illegible], July 1, 1913.*

MY telegram No. [illegible] of 1st July.

Prime Minister obtained vote of confidence by a majority of 27. Russian Minister expects [illegible] setting forth Servian case [illegible] at once and says Prime Minister is only waiting [illegible] St. Petersburgh.

Servians have [illegible] positions. [illegible]

(Sent to Sofia and Bucharest.)

[30401] No. [illegible]

[illegible]

(No. [illegible])
Telegraphic.) [illegible] July 2, 1913.

YESTERDAY [illegible] Bulgarian [illegible] Servian [illegible] responsibility [illegible] hostilities [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Servia [illegible]

[illegible] Sent to Sofia [illegible]

[30385] No. [illegible]

[illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received [illegible])

(No. [illegible])
Telegraphic.) [illegible] July 2, 1913.

BALKANS.

Speaking [illegible] hostilities [illegible] Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs [illegible] Austria [illegible] Russia [illegible] press [illegible] by the Great Powers.

30389 No. [illegible]

[illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received [illegible])

(No. [illegible])
(Telegraphic.) [illegible] July [illegible] 1913.

FOLLOWING [illegible]:—

[illegible] Servia.

[illegible] twenty-[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Bulgarian [illegible], has been [illegible]

[illegible]

30320 No. [illegible]

[illegible]

(No. [illegible])
(Telegraphic.) [illegible] 1913.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Sent to [illegible]

[30607] No. 3[illegible]

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 99.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, July 2, 1913.

I ASKED the Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires, who came to see me to-day, what news he had.

He said that he had [illegible] news [illegible] Bulgaria [illegible] protests against the action of Greece and Servia. Greece and Servia [illegible] protests [illegible] Bulgaria. [illegible] had two days ago sent [illegible] Bulgarian [illegible] was [illegible] defensive. He had expressed [illegible] instructions [illegible] urged Servia and Greece to order the cessation of hostilities. But meanwhile the Chargé d'Affaires [illegible] newspapers an account that Bulgarians had been [illegible] where they were entitled to be [illegible]. This news had presumably [illegible] Sophia [illegible] last telegrams [illegible] sent [illegible] would affect the Bulgarian view of the situation when it was [illegible] Sophia.

[illegible] Bulgaria [illegible] Servia [illegible] the war [illegible] the worst possible characters.

The [illegible] in Macedonia [illegible] Bulgaria [illegible] Bulgarians were placed [illegible] Servia [illegible] would never [illegible]. It was a [illegible] Bulgaria that the question should be settled on ethnographical lines that [illegible] could not be [illegible] by the apprehended danger from Roumania. Bulgaria felt very keenly that Russia [illegible] might have been expected to appreciate the Bulgarian point of view [illegible]. He had certain information that France and Russia [illegible] positively urged Roumania against Bulgaria, and this would never be forgotten [illegible] Bulgaria.

[illegible] know what France [illegible] had been urging at Bucharest. [illegible] say anything [illegible] Roumanian [illegible]. The Roumanian Minister [illegible] informed every one of the interest [illegible] war broke out again in the Balkans. I had expressed to him [illegible] hope that Roumania [illegible] not add further to the complications, and the States concerned [illegible] explained what their own interests were, but it was not for me to tell [illegible] what the particular interests [illegible] required. I could only express the hope that the complication that had [illegible] prove insoluble.

The Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires asked me if the Powers [illegible] any [illegible] of intervention. I said that I had no indication that the Great Powers would intervene. If any of them [illegible] intervene the smaller Powers would certainly lose [illegible] intervention.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[30799] No. [illegible]

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 100.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, July 2, 1913.

THE Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires brought me to-day a request from Dr. Daneff that we should appoint without delay our representative on the International Commission for the [illegible] of the Turco-Bulgarian frontier. He also asked that we should instruct our representative [illegible], on the [illegible] points, the [illegible] that the Bulgarian Government [illegible] starting to the east of Enos, giving [illegible] Station to Bulgaria [illegible] south of [illegible].

I said that [illegible] selected an officer as our representative on the Commission, [illegible] and [illegible] Chargé d'Affaires [illegible] at this point later. I could not promise what instructions would be given to our representative; there must be some latitude in deciding on the [illegible] frontier.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[29118] No. 7

Foreign Office to Immigration Inquiry Committee

Foreign Office, July 1, 1913.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter [illegible] and to forward herewith for the information of the Committee a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople [illegible]

I am to add that Sir Edward Grey would be glad to receive twelve copies of the translation when it is completed, in order that they may be distributed as well as [illegible] copies of the despatch itself.

I am to add that Sir Edward Grey has also received with interest the letter from the Committee [illegible] and to state that he will be glad to receive copies of the Report when it is published.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

30424 No. 8

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey—(received July 5)

(No. 162)

Sir, Athens, June 27, 1913.

WITH reference to your telegram No. 99 of the 18th and No. 69 of the 20th August last, I have the honour to report that the Austrian Minister has lately received the necessary instructions to proceed to Crete to take over charge of the Austrian Consulate, existing against the loss which the Cretans, after the evacuation of the Greek troops, have at present to endure.

With respect to your despatch No. 107 of the 30th March, I have the honour to state that some of my colleagues have asked me to enquire whether I have received instructions on the Cretan question with regard to the future government of the island.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT.

[30436] No. 57

Mr. Carnegie to Sir Edward Grey—(received July)

(No. 330.)

Sir, Paris, July 2, 1913.

I HAVE had a short interview with Mr. Venizelos, who has just arrived from Constantinople, and I enclose herewith a memorandum of the conversation which I had with him.

I have, &c.
LANCELOT D. CARNEGIE.

Enclosure in No. 57.

Sir P. Harvey to Sir Edward Grey

No. 191. Paris, July 2, 1913.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that this morning's meeting of the Committee of the Balkan Finance Commission, dealing with claims for the reimbursement of extraordinary expenses put in by the Roumanian delegation and arising out of the despatch from the British delegates, No. 180, yesterday, came up for discussion.

Djavid Bey, on behalf of the Ottoman delegation, became aware that Turkey absolutely refused to discuss the payment of war indemnity by the Ottoman Government to the Balkan delegations.

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I had had communications with the German delegates as to the attitude we should respectively take. I was influenced by the fact, as soon as it became manifest at this stage of the proceedings that Turkey intended to refuse, on the part of the Balkan delegates to take further part in the work of the Committee dealing with the apportionment of the Turkish Debt, and in consequence prevent the suspension of the work thereof.

I accordingly confined myself to pointing out that we could not in any way acquiesce in the attitude which Turkey proposed to adopt, and to reserving the right of the Ottoman Government to refer at the first meeting in respect of prisoners of war, detention of merchant ships, &c., for the consideration of the whole question. I further took note of the fact that the Servian and Bulgarian delegates were quite willing to support the claims in respect of Adrianople, Scutari respectively, it being understood that the allies would reciprocate at a later date in the event of the expenses of a victorious war where the victor forbore to exact territorial fruits of his victory. The point is of importance, in view of the claim put forward by the Servian Government (see M. Marichkovitch's speech transmitted in my despatch No. 7 of the 28th June) that they are entitled to an indemnity in proportion to the amount of the Turkish Debt assigned to the new Turkish State of 1837.

The German delegate and myself are both of opinion that the expenses in respect of the disbanded Turkish army should form a first charge against the joint loan, leaving for the profit of the successor States which emerge from the present war the surplus of the assets which they had been in the habit of administering.

The Greek delegate has not sent in his further claims, and the other Balkan delegates propose to present theirs to-morrow.

There are no further questions of importance to report, the meeting being less vigorous in character than any which has yet taken place.

I have, &c.
H. P. HARVEY.

30571 No. 58

Résumé de la conversation de Tchéraz avec sir Louis Mallet sur la question persane, communiqué par M. Cambon, July 3, 1913.

Il résulte du télégramme de M. Pichon à l'Ambassadeur à Londres que le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères a engagé avec M. de Tchéraz, chargé dans l'absence de son collègue, une conversation sur les intérêts économiques et financiers de la France en Asie.

Le succès des pourparlers, M. Pichon ajoute, de la grande importance que présente pour le Gouvernement britannique le développement de ce qui concerne le Chemin de Fer de Bagdad, a conduit à constater une nouvelle ressource en faveur de la France, qui, de l'avis des deux Ministres, pourrait être utilisée par le Gouvernement français et le Gouvernement allemand dans des cas analogues. Un accord particulier a été préparé à ce sujet.

M. Pichon ajoute que M. Tchéraz a fait dans ses conversations avec les fonctionnaires du Foreign Office allusion aux négociations entre l'Angleterre et l'Allemagne. Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères croit donc devoir conclure de l'entrevue de ses collègues avec M. Tchéraz que les pourparlers franco-allemands sont bien près d'aboutir avant que la même satisfaction ait été donnée à l'Ambassade de Berlin.

M. Tchéraz a insisté par ailleurs sur l'intérêt qu'il y aurait à ce que le Gouvernement allemand ne puisse s'assurer de concessions spéciales en Caramanie et à ce que l'Angleterre secondât le désir de Paris à l'égard de ce développement à engager.

[30404] No. 8

Sir ... Bunsen to Sir Edward Grey ... (Received July ...)

(No. 8.)
(Telegraphic) *Foreign Office, July 2, 1913.*

I LEARN that as the result of Cabinet meeting this morning Roumanian Ministers at Sofia, Belgrade and Athens have been instructed to enquire of the respective Governments whether Governments consider that a state of war exists.

Sent to Athens, Sofia and Belgrade.

[30406] No. 9

Consul Stevens to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July ...)

(No. 107.)
(Telegraphic) *Uskub, July 2, 1913.*

M. VESNITCH, Foreign Affairs assistant, Prime Minister's left Belgrade yesterday morning, has received instructions that General Pachitch, Servian Prime Minister, is to start for St. Petersburgh.

Telegram to Belgrade.

(Copies to Belgrade.)

[30567] No. 10

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 87. Most Confidential.)
(Telegraphic) *Vienna, July 3, 1913.*

I LEARN privately that the Bulgarian Minister here has received a telegram from the Bulgarian Prime Minister instructing him to communicate to the Austro-Hungarian Government that Bulgaria is prepared to make large territorial concessions to Roumania in order to induce her to understand that she will take no part should war break out. The Bulgarian Minister made this communication yesterday morning to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in the absence of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I understand that this action on the part of Bulgaria is in conformity with the advice given in Bucharest by Austro-Hungarian Government.

I am also informed that Bulgarian Prime Minister has told Austrian Minister at Sofia that he will not go to St. Petersburgh.

[30547] No. 12

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 110.)
(Telegraphic) *Athens, July 3, 1913.*

INFORMATION received this night from Greek headquarters, but not yet officially confirmed, states that Greek 2nd and 7th divisions attacked with bayonet yesterday at Arab-Tchesmeh and Sarigoul, driving back Bulgarians with loss.

Chamber will meet to-morrow and state of war will be declared to exist.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

30572 No. 13

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 1...)
(Telegraphic) ... *Athens, July 3, 1913.*

GREEKS have evacuated Gevgheli, Demir-Hissar, Kilkis.

(Repeated to Bucharest.)

[30403] No. 14

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 3.

(No. 238.)
(Telegraphic) *Sophia, July 3, 1913.*

GREEK Government have addressed note to Bulgarian Government stating that, in view of repeated violation by Bulgarian troops of line of demarcation, Greek divisions in Macedonia have been instructed to act on the offensive.

This is considered to be as a practical declaration of war, but neither Greek Minister at Sophia nor Bulgarian Minister at Athens has yet been recalled.

Prime Minister summoned Opposition leaders to-day, and informed them of the situation. He gave them to understand that he was in favour of peace and would like to proceed to St. Petersburgh. There is no doubt that check experienced by the Bulgarians at Gheygheli has contributed to this attitude, though no reverse is admitted here.

Cabinet has been sitting continuously to-day and no important decision has been reached.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[30578 No. 15

Consul-General Lamb to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 4.)

(No. 55.)
(Telegraphic) *Salonica, July 3, 1913.*

GREEKS took Kukush after various battles yesterday and to-day north-east above mentioned town, up to present slightly in favour of Greeks. Issue as yet unknown.

Bulgarians have burnt several Greek villages and massacred inhabitants.

Greek report of advance north of Langaza.

[30558] No. 16

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 312.)
(Telegraphic) *Constantinople, July 3, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from Salonica, 2nd July:—

"The King of Greece arrived 1st July and left 2nd July for Arvat with staff.

"Greeks report advance in order to attack Bulgarians at Kukush and north of Langaza."

[30650] No. 17

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Elliot.

(No. 97.)
(Telegraphic) *Foreign Office, July 3, 1913.*

TURKISH Government have asked for our good offices to induce Greek Government not to interfere with transport at Alexandretta of a regiment which has just been discharged at Constantinople.

[30271] No. 18.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Paget.

(No. 145.)
(Telegraphic) R *Foreign Office, July 3, 1913.*

ADMIRALTY telegraphs that Servian troops are remaining in the Albanian towns of Orchi, Medua and Peshkopi. You should urge the Servian Government to order withdrawal of these troops at once in order to avoid collisions with tribes.

Repeated to Rome, No. 170; Vienna, No. 200; Berlin, No. 229; Paris, No. 253; and St. Petersburgh, No. 194.

[30271] No. 4

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Rodd.**

(No. 196
(Telegraphic) *Foreign Office, July 3, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 166 of 3rd July to Belgrade.

Request Government to send instructions to their representative to speak in the same sense.

[31223] No. 50.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Conyngham.†

No. 427
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 3, 1913.*

I TOLD the French and Russian Ambassadors to-day of the Austro-Italian proposal about reorganisation for Albania and of the other arrangements that I proposed to suggest. I consider, of course, regard to the friendly relations of Russia. Governments as would not the proposal even with the suggested modifications, before it had been submitted to them, and I would have said nothing on the subject had it been made to me privately, and if I were in a position of entire right to withdraw and regardless, by its authors as *non avenue*. But if the Governments that I proposed were to accept it, I would tell the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors that it was worth while to urge the proposal before the *reunion*.

The French Ambassador said that in this case Count Benckendorff and he could refer to their Governments.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[31232] No. 51.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Carnegie.‡

(No. 129)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 3, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copies of two memoranda communicated to me respectively by the Austrian and Russian Ambassadors to-day, respecting the relations in which Austria would accept an international commission for the consideration of the southern and south-eastern frontiers of Albania.

I have observed, as regards M. Sazonoff's point that Bulgaria must have Adrianople, that this opposition would be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to overcome. Servian territory so that Servia would get access to the Ægean Sea: that no point about the suggestion, or rather the condition, stipulated for by the Austrian Government on the 5th November, 1912, as described in my despatch No. 84 of that date to Sir F. Cartwright, might be reversed in favour of Servia.

Both the French Ambassador remarking that Greece would refuse to evacuate Koritza, I said that we might propose to recommend to Greece conditions of which we approved, telling Greece that if she would not accept them these were the terms that we would make for her.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 51.

Memorandum.

L'Ambassadeur d'Autriche-Hongrie a donné lecture aujourd'hui au Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de la communication suivante:

Le Gouvernement Austro-Hongrois a pris connaissance avec le plus grand intérêt des propositions faites par le Gouvernement Britannique au sujet de la délimitation définitive de l'Albanie du côté du Sud et du Sud-Est.

Il a constaté avec satisfaction que ces propositions sont conformes aux principes qui ont été admis par les Puissances dans la Conférence de Londres et qui ont servi de base à la création de l'Albanie indépendante.

Le Gouvernement Austro-Hongrois est prêt à accepter la création d'une Commission internationale qui aurait à s'occuper de la délimitation définitive de l'Albanie du côté du Sud et du Sud-Est, à condition que les principes suivants soient admis par les Puissances:

I. La côte albanaise doit s'étendre jusqu'à Chimara.

II. Koritza avec son territoire doit être attribué à l'Albanie.

III. Un représentant de la Roumanie doit être admis à la réunion qui aura à se prononcer sur le sort des villages de Pindes.

Tant que ces trois principes ne seront pas acceptés, il paraîtrait au Comte Berchtold prématuré de parler des conditions sous lesquelles il serait disposé à accepter la création d'une Commission internationale. Toutefois, le Comte Berchtold, tenant à exprimer le désir de répondre, dès à présent, à l'invitation qui lui a été faite, déclare que, sous réserve de l'acceptation des trois principes susmentionnés, il accepterait les conditions suivantes:

1. Pour chaque concession faite à la Grèce au delà des limites de la frontière proposée par l'Autriche-Hongrie et l'Italie, celles-ci devraient avoir un intérêt égal à la question des îles.

2. La Commission internationale devrait limiter d'abord la cession à la Grèce du territoire qui serait attribué à cette dernière en accordant dans un premier temps à la Commission un délai de trois mois pour régler définitivement la question de la frontière méridionale de l'Albanie.

3. Après avoir constaté que la partie de la frontière méridionale de l'Albanie qui a été définitivement tracée par la Commission internationale a été acceptée par la Grèce, la Commission devrait procéder à la délimitation définitive de la frontière du Sud-Est de l'Albanie.

Les conditions ne semblent pas devoir être acceptables telles qu'elles sont énoncées.

Il faudrait convenir que, si l'on est d'accord en principe que le district de Koritza doit être attribué à l'Albanie, il faut également s'entendre en principe sur le fait que le district de Koritza devrait être attribué à la Grèce sous réserve de garanties pour l'emploi de la langue grecque dans les écoles. Il faudrait également s'entendre en principe sur le fait que tous les villages où la majorité de la population est grecque, à l'exception de ceux de Dolonia et de Hasi, devraient être attribués à la Grèce, et que si dans ces villages il n'était pas trouvé une majorité de la population grecque, elle devrait être restituée à la Turquie. Il faudrait aussi s'entendre en principe sur le fait que les villages de Koritza et de Sisani devraient être attribués à l'Albanie. Le sort des villages situés à l'intérieur de la frontière méridionale de l'Albanie devrait être réglé par la Commission internationale qui aura à s'occuper de la délimitation définitive de la frontière du Sud et du Sud-Est de l'Albanie.

Les autres conditions stipulées par le Gouvernement Austro-Hongrois concernent des questions de détail.

Avant que la question ne soit soumise à la réunion des Ambassadeurs, il serait désirable de connaître l'opinion des Gouvernements français et russe sur les propositions qui précèdent.

Foreign Office, July 3, 1913.

[31224] No. 52.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir E. Goschen.

(No. 217)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 3, 1913.*

I TOLD the German Ambassador to-day of the contents of your Excellency's telegram No. 91 of to-day.

I said that we also were urging non-intervention, and we had found the French Government very sympathetic on the point during the French President's visit last week. I did not think that Russia was likely to intervene unless Austria did so first. I pointed out, however, that some uneasiness was being created by the aggressive tone Austria had encouraged Bulgaria to go to war with. I did not raise any independent confirmation of this, and therefore could not speak officially about it, but the way in which Austria, having agreed to advocate demonstration, has changed over and

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* Also to Sir F. Cartwright (No. 260), Sir E. Goschen (No. 240), Mr. Carnegie (No. 254), and Sir G. Buchanan (No. 495).

† Also to Sir G. Buchanan (No. 222).

‡ Also to Sir G. Buchanan (No. 224).

and refuse to press Servia further and to insist, on the ground that Servia wished for too much, that she therefore could not support it had to result in the impression that Austria had engaged Bulgaria.

The Ambassadors were aware that the impression that was to understand that Austria was in some difficulty with Russia and Germany, having had now been aroused in consequence of the impression that Austria was too favourable to Bulgaria. He himself, however, that Austria would intervene if Russia did not do so.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

31226 No. 4

Sir E. Grey to Sir E. Goschen.

No. 428
Sir

Foreign Office, July 1, 1913.

IN the course of to-day's conversation with the Austrian Ambassador to-day I said that two things were essential for the moment:

1. That the position of Governments without treaty obligations should be clearly understood, and I knew I was expressing the view of the Russian Government when I said that it seemed to me that the practical way of doing this was for the Ambassadors at Berlin, Paris, and Rome to speak to the Governments to which they were accredited. I would not, however, give specific instructions.

2. That the German Ambassadors should not leave Paris, Berlin, and Rome until the Ambassadors had had time to receive replies to the suggestions above mentioned. The departure of Ambassadors would create a feeling of disquietude.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

31225. No. 5a

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir G. Buchanan.**

(No. 1221)
Sir,

Foreign Office, July 1, 1913.

I SAW the Russian and French Ambassadors to-day together. I told them of Sir Edward Goschen's telegram No. 428 of to-day and of what I have said to the German Ambassador about it this afternoon.

The French Ambassador evidently favoured a direct proposal that we should submit the whole question to arbitration.

I said that I could not make such a proposal until I was sure that it would be accepted by M. Sazonof, and I thought as M. Sazonof's language pointed in that direction I was not quite sure that he would welcome a direct proposal.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[30632. No. 5c

M. Cambon to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 4.)

LES autorités grecques ont repoussé l'offre de Samos sont adressé à l'Administration de la Dette publique ottomane pour obtenir le payement d'une somme de 75,000 piastres, représentant la dernière semestralité qui par la Dette a été prise pour garantir les engagements de l'île.

Le Gouvernement français estime que le Gouvernement de la somme reçue par le Gouvernement hellénique ne saurait être effectuée entre les mains de ce dernier avant que le sort définitif de l'île ait été réglé. Il pense donc que cette somme devrait être déposée sous séquestre en attendant que la situation de Samos ait fait l'objet d'un examen de la part des puissances signataires du protocole de 1830.

* As to Mr. Carnegie No. 428.

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L'Ambassadeur de France a été invité à faire part au Gouvernement britannique des vues de M. Pichon et à lui demander si elles concordent avec les siennes.
M. Paul Cambon saisit &c.

Ambassade de France, London,
le 2 juillet 1913.

[30647] No. 3

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 4.)

Sir,

Admiralty, July 2, 1913.

I AM commanded by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a report which has been received this night from the Commander-in-Chief of Mediterranean Fleet, on the subject of the movements of His Majesty's ships [illegible] at Constantinople.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE

Enclosure No. 5a

Captain Seymour, Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, to Admiralty.

(No. 27)
Sir,

H.M.S. Lion, at sea, June 30, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to report the following movements of the Fleet under my command:—

2. The programme of exercises ordered for the 30th May to 4th June was carried out as far as was practicable, but the Admiral was unable to pass by the Dardanelles on the 4th June, owing to the strong current.

3. In view of the importance of all ships being present for the Coronation of His Majesty the King, I decided that the Squadron should proceed to Constantinople, and arrived there on the forenoon of the 5th June.

4. The visit has been published in the newspapers. I have never had so many enquiries as to the movements of a ship as I have had about the *Lion*.

5. As I felt that the Ambassador had refused to salute the Admiral to Constantinople, I thought it would be a graceful act on the part of the Turkish Government if we could pay a visit to Smyrna, as I knew that the Vali would like to get the Fleet there. I therefore made a request to this effect, and thereby hoped to avoid trouble.

6. The Turkish Government replied that they were sensible of the honour, but that the Bulgarian war which was then just over, had left the country in a very disturbed state, and that they could not guarantee the safety of the Fleet. I therefore withdrew my request.

It has been suggested that in the event of war between Bulgaria and Turkey, Christian forces might be used to compel the Turks to give back some part of Macedonia.

The general feeling is that if there was war between Turkey and Bulgaria we should be strictly neutral.

The Government is most urgent necessity from Europe and they feel that this is unlikely to be forthcoming if any act of theirs endangers peace.

7. Peace has enabled the finances of the country to take a turn for the better. The majority (perhaps as great as two-thirds) are opposed to the Committee of Union and Progress.

The Turks are very anxious to be friendly with us, though I do not think they would like any of the Asiatic troops would not be opposed to battle for England's sake.

8. The Government are the puppets of the Committee, whose organisation resembles that of a secret society with many branches. Their actions are carried out secretly, commencing the intentions so complete.

9. The assassination of Mahmud Shefket Pasha was considered certain. He had stated openly, during many officers, he was the Committee. His assassination was probably suggested from Christmas.

[164] 11

There was a widespread fear that this assassination might be followed by a massacre of Bulgarians in Constantinople. No such movement was made.

There have been at least 200 arrests in connection with the assassination, the Government having taken this opportunity of spreading their net as wide as possible so as to include several influential persons in the opposition.

In Parliament passed off entirely without incident. It was feared by certain officers whom the Committee would have been unable to leave their commands if their services were required.

The Bulgarian recent events the Committee appear to be unable to deal with any new Ministry which may arise.

Talaat Bey's assassination is the subject of a private letter from [illegible]

I am writing to you to point out that this is not likely to have any influence on [illegible]

I have &c.
T. D. L. SHEPPARD

30642 No. 7

Sir H. Lamb to the Earl of Cromer. Sir Edward Grey received July 4.)

Bulgarian Commissioners, St. Stephen, London, June 3, 1913.

Sir,

With regard to the question of tobacco in the Gulf of Xeli in the Pangeon Mountain, which I had the honour to discuss with the Bulgarian Delegates, I have the honour to inform you that I have received further advice that a quantity of tobacco is now in the possession of the Bulgarian army at Xeli. The Bulgarian Chief Inspector of the Eastern Tobacco Company states that he received orders from the Director in Xanthi to engage labour and to buy the Bulgarian requisitioned tobacco left with the peasants, and I would be sold by them as soon as [illegible] that I should [illegible] the case of tobacco also in the hands of the Bulgarian army at Xeli and Drama in possession of the Bulgarian army with the Government's [illegible]

As I expect [illegible] I am [illegible] to any rights to compensation which the whole question may put forward through the Ambassadors' Conference at Sofia.

May we ask you to be good enough to instruct His Majesty's representatives in Sofia to obtain from the Bulgarian Government an early settlement of this question, as they have been pressing for a settlement of the question of things which makes it most impossible to proceed with?

We have &c.
(for the British Tobacco Company (London), Limited)
JOSEPH HOOD, *Director.*

[30573 No. 58

Sir H. Lamb (Constantinople) to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 4.

(No. 230.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 3, 1913.*

My telegram No. 229 of 1st July.

Serious engagement with Servians is reported from direction of Ishtib. Bulgarians claim to have taken 4 guns and 2 machine guns. War news reported by yesterday's Servian official communiqué.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[30574 No. 59.

Sir H. Lamb (Constantinople) to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 4.

(No. 240.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 3, 1913.*

MILITARY attaché hears unofficially that the Bulgarian Government are impossible to restrain General Savoff and the 2nd army. Fifth Army, under General Toshef is said to have captured Egri Palanka, but up to late last night headquarters were not in communication with him.

Second, fourth and fifth armies have been now engaged since the night of 29th-30th June. Third army is covering Sofia, and has not yet taken the offensive.

Pray inform Director of Military Operations.

Sent to Belgrade.)

[30601] No. 60.

Sir H. Lamb (Constantinople) to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 4.)

(No. 241. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 3, 1913.*

I AM credibly informed that Bulgarian Government have concluded a loan of 1,000,000*l.* with Credit Austro-Hongrois, and that they have despatched a number of short-term Treasury bonds in connection therewith.

[30602 No. 61.

Sir H. Lamb (Constantinople) to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 4.)

(No. 242.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 3, 1913.*

My telegram No. 229 of 1st July.

Mustapha Pasha informed me, in reply to my question, that Ottoman Government would take direct action which case I have no doubt we have power to [illegible]

It appears also that, even if war should be declared between Greece and Turkey, Smyrna will be [illegible] Greek warships.

Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[30603] No. 62.

Sir H. Lamb (Constantinople) to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 4.

(No. 245.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 3, 1913.*

RUMANIAN Minister has just received instructions to inform Bulgarian Government that his Government have called up their reserves.

This will be 11th Balkan Prime Minister to go to St. Petersburg.

Russian vessels waiting for him at Varna.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

30604] No. 63.

Sir H. Lamb (Constantinople) to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 4.

(No. 244.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 3, 1913.*

MILITARY attaché informs me as follows:—

General Savoff has been replaced as chief of staff by General Radko Dimitrieff. Reasons not given, probably political.

No official information being given as to recent fighting, but I hear on good authority that Servian Turkish division has surrendered to Bulgarian 8th division at Kriva Palanka. Bulgarian advance continues, while probably completed in two days.

Please inform Director of Military Operations.

Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.

[30600] No. 64.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 4.*)

(No. 84.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 3, 1913.*

ORDERS for mobilisation were issued to-day.

[30722] No. 65.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 4.*)

(No. 85.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 4, 1913.*

BALKANS.

News of mobilisation was received by the populace of Bucharest with every manifestation of joy. There was an enthusiastic demonstration in front of the Palace and large crowds sang patriotic songs in the streets.

Anti-Austrian sentiments reported as yet against Austria-Hungary as against Bulgaria, several banners bearing such words as "Vasa pentru Viena."

[30723] No. 66.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 4.*)

(No. 45. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 3, 1913.*

My Austrian colleague has received telegram from his Government instructing him to make further representations at Sofia in favour of peace. He was under the impression that he was acting in a strong Russophile sense, but he is inclined to think that Bulgarian attitude in Vienna and St. Petersburg was responsible for instructions to Sofia.

French Minister still considers that prospects are favourable for peace. All the Legation clerks [illegible] Austrian sympathies, and [illegible] are said to be inclined to the same.

Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.

30726 No. 67.

Sir G. Grahame to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 4.*)

(No.
(Telegraphic.) *Berne, July 4, 1913.*

Wolff Bureau No. 240 [illegible] Austrian troops from Albania.

Government have not yet had time to receive representations from Belgrade to speak in the sense desired.

[30724] No. 68.

Sir C. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 4.*)

(No. 214.)
Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 4, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My colleagues in Athens will warn Greek Government against Bulgarian situation at present, but I am not clear as to what to do. In fact, Servia herself has not yet spoken as now Bulgaria still has all Russian support. I have urged them to follow Bulgarian example and order their cessation of hostilities as no warrant for it even if successful they will be prevented by Austria from keeping fruits of victory. All his efforts have been, however, in vain, and he acknowledges that Russia is powerless to exercise effective pressure either at Sophia or Belgrade. I said that Roumanian mobilisation might be a restraining influence at former, but that it would have contrary effect at latter and enquired

whether in event of Austria bringing pressure to bear at Belgrade to stop war Russian Government would protest. He replied that he could not answer this question until case had actually arisen, but that Austrian intervention was one thing which he feared. On my referring to proposal put forward in the press that Powers should take whole question in hand like they had done with regard to Treaty of San Stefano, he said that collective action by Powers might possibly produce some result but he feared that conference would but show that there were irreconcilable differences between them, as Austrian pretensions would be bar to agreement. He would like to know your views. I repeated what you had said in your telegram No. 181 of 27th June. He quite agreed, but said that he feared that Austria would not consent to disinterest herself. He would, he added, consult you and French Government, without, however, indicating what he was going to suggest. While very ant. Bulgarian in his language, Minister for Foreign Affairs believes and hopes that Bulgaria will in the end beat Servia as victory of latter might lead to international complications. He told me that Roumania had applied to French Government for financial assistance, and to Russia for material assistance with munitions and military supplies. He was replying that Russia would remain strictly neutral. On my remarking that personally I thought that Roumania ought to reserve her action if occupation of Silistria continued, he said that it might perhaps be well to give her a hint to this effect, though he did not actually say that he would do so.

30703. No. 69.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 4.*)

(No. 112.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 4, 1913.*

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs says that on entering Negrita yesterday the Greeks found nothing but smoking ruins and corpses of old men, women, and children. Same in other places, and he has information that the Bulgarians intend to massacre every Greek in Cavalla.

He begs earnestly that a consular officer may be sent there as an eyewitness of events.

30707] No. 70.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 4.*)

(No. 113.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 4, 1913.*

GREEKS are at Doiran and hope to surround Bulgarian army of Kilkish to-day. They estimate Bulgarian casualties at 12,000, and 5,000 prisoners. Own losses heavy, including three colonels killed.

Blockade of Cavalla and Dedeagatch will be probably declared to-morrow.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

[30721] No. 71.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 4.*)

(No. 114.)
Telegraphic.) *Decod.* *Athens, July 4, 1913.*

BALKANS.

In Chamber Prince Mavrokordatos read a message from the King calling nation and army to fresh struggle to defend their rights against insatiable Bulgarian greed and their lately liberated brethren against threatened terrible slavery. Message received with enthusiasm.

[30895] No. 72

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 4.

No. 168.

(Telegraphic.) R. *Belgrade, July 3, 1913.*

SIR H. BAX-IRONSIDE'S telegram No. 244 of 3rd July: Balkans.

It is suspected here that, after successes on first two days, and capturing 300 Bulgarian prisoners and ten guns, Servians have had a reverse somewhere, as the number of casualties acknowledged has suddenly risen from 7,000 to 9,000, and the tone of telegrams seems less confident.

It is reported that Bulgarians are rallying.

I do not propose to send war news unless important, for sources obtainable beyond what appears in the press are not telegraphed from here. It is of course scarcely reliable.

(Sent to Sofia.)

30727] No. 73

Letter (Consular) from Mr. Lamb to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 4.)

(No. 75.)

(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 4, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Greeks assault three hundred Bulgarians at point called Ngrita.

Fighting north of Kukush still continues. Three thousand Greek wounded are now here. Vodena is reported to be in Greek hands. Greeks captured Gevgheli yesterday.

[30385] No. 74

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

No. 131.

(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 4, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 1 of 3rd July: Balkans.

I have told German Ambassador that I also have advocated policy of non-intervention, but I have found sympathetic response to effort that war should be localised, and, so far as I can judge, it is not likely that any Power will intervene if Austria loses or loses.

[20643] No. 75

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Carnegie.

(No. 413.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 4, 1913.*

I HAVE to request you to inform the French Government that I should be glad to receive an expression of their views on the suggestion conveyed to them by my despatch No. 260 of 17th April last to Sir F. Bertie, that the annuity to be paid to M. Zaimis should be withdrawn from the account and should be met by the Cretan surtax.

Sir F. Bertie reported in his despatch No. 222 of 2nd May that the French Minister for Foreign Affairs desired to reserve a reply to this suggestion till he had consulted the Minister of Finance.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[24971] No. 76

Sir Edward Grey to Sir L. Rodd.

(No. 167.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 4, 1913.*

I HAVE to request you to inform the Italian Government that I should be glad to receive their reply to the suggestion which I instructed you in my despatch No. 159 of the 17th April to make to them, namely, that the proceeds of the accumulated sum produced by the Cretan surtax

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[31228] No. 77

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.**

No. 135.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 4, 1913.*

I TOLD the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors to-day that I had communicated to the French and Russian Ambassadors their communications for the acceptance of a concession respecting the Delimitation of the south of Albania, and I gave a memorandum upon them. I would see what terms we can get out of Turkey and world, let them know.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

31229] No. 78.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

No. 136.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 4, 1913.*

IN talking informally with the Austrian Ambassador to-day I said that I must have a formal decision by the end of July. I would try to get some opinion about the delimitation in the south of Albania agreed to, so the right status of Albania put on foot before then. But, if this could not be done, the Ambassadors must consult their Governments as to the same leaving these points aside.

The Ambassador asked me whether it would be only matter of form to refer to the Powers.

I replied that I would not say things would probably be better for a reference to arbitrament. When we came down to the last we should be free to decide whether we would refer to the Powers or not. I went on to point out that one of the difficulties in drawing progress was the war between the former Allies. We had the Austrian Ambassador to-day before we discussed anything else, and he asked most anxiously what news there was as regards this. It was the desire of the Foreign Offices and Governments abroad and their Governments absorbedly this war. Because this preoccupation there must be a feeling that the Powers of the war might affect the point of view at present taken of questions that were still unsettled.

The Ambassador observed that if Servia had great successes, things might become more difficult.

I said that Servian successes might cut both ways. Unless Servia went into Albania again, or Greece pushed further in and the existing *status quo* was thus upset, I assumed that the war would be localised, and that the Great Powers would not interfere. There was no prospect of Servia going into Albania again at present: she needed all her forces on the other side to deal with Bulgaria. If Servia and Greece defeated Bulgaria, they would presumably arrange for a substantial extension of frontier between Servia and Greece. One of the difficulties that I had in discussing the question of Kavtza was that if Bulgaria had Monastir and all the part of Macedonia, there could be no conterminous frontier between Servia and Greece if Greece did not get Kavtza.

The Ambassador observed that he thought the object of Bulgaria was to prevent a conterminous frontier, and to keep Servia and Greece apart.

* Most of No. 136.

I said that it was possible on the merits it was very natural that they should wish for a contermінous frontier, as Servia had a great interest in not being shut off by Bulgaria from access to the Ægean Sea. How natural this was Count Aehrenthal would remember from his study of what he had published in November last as to Austria's real access by railway to Salonica. If Greece and Servia secured contermінous frontiers Macedonia might make the settlement of affairs easier.

The Ambassador observed that he was afraid there was a good deal of irritation at present.

I said that I thought there was, though the feeling was not now so serious between the Great Powers as it had been over some previous questions. There was an impression, countenanced perhaps by the Austrian change of attitude in respect, representations at Sofia, that the disaster that Austria had been very easy with Bulgaria and reluctant to encourage her Roumanian ally.

Count Mensdorff said that Austria was withdrawn from her position as representative of Bulgaria at the Peace Conference.

I said that I was not aware of that, but I expressed surprise, as I had understood from the telegram of the Emperor of Russia to Bulgaria and Servia, before the Austrian Ultimatum, that a new orientation had been created at St. Petersburgh with which Austria, which was a party to the declaration of Austrian policy in the Balkans, had associated itself, in fact, in reply to the Emperor's telegram.

I am &c.
E. GREY.

131230 No. 7

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright

(No. 137)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 4, 1913.*

I TOLD the Austrian and the Ambassadors to-day that I had given a copy of their memorandum to the organisation of Albania to my colleagues because I understood that if I had not done so they might otherwise think that I had withheld from them a document which they had, moreover, read at the French and Russian Ambassadors, and I had told them of the general nature of the proposal. I thought that the proposal could not possibly be accepted as it stood, but I had also told the Austrian Ambassador that I had drawn up a thing that I thought would be worth putting forward. I had since seen the French and Russian Ambassadors, who had accepted it because they had not seen any other proposal or amendments, but the French and Russian Ambassadors knew that I had explained matters verbally, and would be prepared to see what their views were if it was amended as I proposed. I now gave to the two Ambassadors copies of the following memorandum:

"Memorandum with Proposals communicated by the Austro-Hungarian and Italian Ambassadors for the Organisation of Albania.

ARTICLE 2.

"This would be prepared and is as consistent with the original resolution of the 20th December, 1912" is followed: "Autonomous Albania to be granted and controlled executive and police powers to Powers."

"It would be further proposed to substitute for the words "autonomous, guaranteed and controlled executive and police powers" the words

ARTICLE 3.

"One of the questions to be settled is that of evacuation of some ports of Albania so that there is no Government to take the place of the occupying troops. The appointment of the Commission of Control will be the answer to any such objection and will therefore be desirable to make the

* Also to Count Beust, No. 171.

appointment of the commission dependent upon precedent evacuation, and the commission should be appointed as soon as possible.

"It is doubtful whether the regime in Egypt is a suitable precedent for Albania, and it seems undesirable to limit the commission to it.

"The commission should in its report on future organisation not lose sight of the control of the Powers.

"These points would be met if article 3 was altered to read as follows —

"En attendant que la réorganisation complète de l'administration de l'Albanie soit confiée à une Commission internationale de Contrôle composée de délégués des six Puissances et nommée de gré avec la Porte, les Puissances seront chargées de doter au projet d'organisation définitif de tous les pouvoirs nécessaires à mettre aux mains de l'Albanie. Cette commission, présidée par une puissance désignée d'un commun accord par les six Puissances, aura pour mission de proposer à la Porte, dans le délai de six mois, toutes les mesures d'ordre administratif et financier qu'elle jugera utiles à la bonne organisation des pouvoirs exécutifs et de police autonomes garantis à l'Albanie.

"Les pouvoirs de cette dernière commission devront répondre à un principe général de contrôle et non entrer dans des détails d'exécution."

"It would be necessary to add words which would limit the power of the Commission de Contrôle.

"I observed that the proposal to limit the employment of foreign officers to the gendarmerie would be a great hardship and difficulty in the case of the object to secure order in Albania and that the proposal to employ Swedes had been accepted.

"Foreign Office, July 2, 1913."

The Italian Ambassador said that it would be preferable that the Commission should rather than the Principal Powers should guarantee and control.

I said that the two Ambassadors' proposals were that they had. I myself could not see very much difference, but perhaps others might prefer the word "autonomous" as the subject of a guarantee.

The Ambassadors then told me that they had both stated to their Governments the proposal that the Commission of Control should be appointed "until the designation of the Prince" at this point had been struck out, and the Austrian Ambassador explained that what was wished was that there was the establishment of a regime while at a Prince as it might become permanent.

I suggested that this might be guarded against by declaring that a Prince should be chosen within some limit of time such as six months, and that the Commission should be appointed as soon as possible. I told the Ambassadors that they must put this forward as their proposal, as occurred to me as a suggestion.

Both the Ambassadors said that they were prepared to proceed with the choosing of officers for the gendarmerie. They evidently favoured the selection of Swedes, but they raised no objection to Swiss, Belgian or Dutch officers.

I am &c.
E. GREY.

[26987] No. 8

Foreign Office to Council of Foreign Bondholders

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 4, 1913.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey, to refer to your letter of the 24th ultimo, and previous correspondence relative to the desire of the British bondholders of the Ottoman Public Debt to be represented on the International Commission now sitting at Paris to settle the financial questions arising out of the late war.

I am to inform you in reply that in Sir E. Grey's opinion, your Council have no cause for complaint or anxiety as to the constitution of the commission, or as to the arrangements made for the protection of the holders of Ottoman bonds in general or of British holders in particular.

I am to point out that the Commissioners are fully aware of the views of the Ottoman Public Debt, as they have had before them the case presented by the President of the Council in his letter to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, copy of which was enclosed in your communication of the 5th ult. mo.

The Ottoman Public Debt is moreover represented on the Commission by three members of the Council of the control er-general of the Debt Administration has been authorised to attend its meetings in the capacity of technical assistant to the secretariat, and the Ottoman delegator which counts among its members Sir R rawford, adviser to the Turkish Ministry of Finance, have made the interests of the bondholders their own

Moreover, British interests as a whole will be sufficiently safeguarded by the Council of the Ottoman Public Debt are represented by the British delegation.

Sir E Grey cannot therefore admit that your Chancellor have any ground of complaint in the arrangements made but he nevertheless proposed to the French Government that the Administration of the Ottoman Public Debt should be given an opportunity of making their views known to the Commission through a financial report to be selected by the Administration of Debt Debtholders to Paris to safeguard their interests

This proposal has not however, gained the adhesion of the French Government, who have pointed out that this open to objection in view of the fact that the numerous bodies interested in the other questions with which the Commission is called upon to deal would undoubtedly claim a similar privilege which if the suggestion were carried at two or three months. It would delay to them

Sir E Grey feels that there is much force in this objection

I am &c
W LANGLEY

[30752] No. 81

Sir G Lowther to Sir Edward Grey (Received July 2)

(No 770)

Sir *Constantinople June 28, 1913.*

At a meeting of the Council of the Administration of the Ottoman Debt held on the 22nd May the figures were given showing the losses suffered by the Debt in the year ended on that day as follows:—

The total loss is given as £938,000 which is distributed as £,

These figures are as follows:—

[illegible] previous Succession from the 1st October 1912, to the 28th February 1913 in comparison for the corresponding average of the last three years was £2,695,000 of which £1,[illegible] represents the [illegible] preceding year the [illegible] to property, £1,[illegible]68 [illegible] &c. The receipts have been by the Greeks [illegible] £1,[illegible]88 and [illegible] £1,[illegible]88 are added to the general [illegible] of receipts

For the [illegible] Macedonia from the 1st November 1912, to the 31st March 1913 the losses comprised on the basis of the receipts for the corresponding months of previous years are put down at £74,954 in the districts occupied by the Servians and £57,8[illegible] in those occupied by the Greeks.

For the island of Mitylene the loss from the 1st November 1912, to the 28th February, 1913, is estimated at £8,818.

In the provinces of Adrianople the receipts from the 1st October 1912 to the 28th February, 1913 fell short by £4,278 of the average of those obtained in the corresponding period of the two previous years.

For the province of Dibazzo exact figures were not yet available but the loss is roughly estimated at £,777.

Further [illegible]

	£
Salonica	14,699
Monastir (Servia)	24,458
[illegible] (Greece)	30,418
Mytilene	8,818
Adrianople	41,278
[illegible] (Bulgaria estimated)	[illegible]
Total	6[illegible]2,2[illegible]

I have, &c
GERARD LOWTHER.

[30732] No. 82

Mr Carnegie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 5.)

No. 358
Sir *Paris, July 3, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, with reference to my despatch No. 351 Confidential of the 28th ultimo, a despatch from Sir Rennell Rodd reporting on the Greek claims against Turkey for compensation.

I have, &c
LANCELOT D CARNEGIE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 82

Sir F Harvey to Sir Edward Grey

No. 21
Sir *Pera, May 3, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you copies of the supplementary claims for compensation put in by the Greek delegation at the Balkan Commission in respect of the expenses of the Government in connection with the maintenance of prisoners of war detention of enhanced [illegible] &c. amounting to £,000,000. The claims of the other delegations are not yet available.

I took the opportunity of this interview to call the attention of Mr Margerie to the further claim of the Greek Government, which was conveyed by Mr Carnegie to Sir E Grey and reported by the latter in his despatch No. 45, of the 28th May, in case the Greek Government should be able to consider the question.

Mr Margerie informed me that, in keeping the reservation which has been reported by Mr Carnegie as to the possibility of the Greeks proving the loss of revenue [illegible] to the interruption of [illegible] suggested that they should be limited from the just claims of the Ottoman Government to take over the debts and assets [illegible] Greek delegates that any such consideration would be made with a view to replacing the amounts [illegible] would be disadvantageous to Turkey.

While the French Government were [illegible] to support the Ottoman delegates in their opposition to the claims [illegible] Greeks [illegible] &c. they would consider [illegible] Greek Government should [illegible] the arrival at an agreement of a moderate character [illegible] allies [illegible] to the Ottoman Government. He [illegible] that it would be more just and satisfactory if the sum took the form of a payment by the states [illegible] share of the Ottoman debt to the payment was made a [illegible] Turkey in respect of the [illegible] of the allies.

I have &c
F P LARVEY.

Enclosure 2 in No. 82

Supplementary Claims for Compensation put forward by Greek Delegation to Balkan Financial Commission.

LE Gouvernement Royal Hellenique reclame en outre du remboursement de ses depenses de guerre, le payement [illegible] diverses sommes. Les motifs en sont les faits particuliers.

I.—*Depenses relatives aux [illegible] de guerre.*

Le Gouvernement Royal Hellenique a eu à son pouvoir, au cours de la guerre plus de 8[illegible],000 officiers, sous officers et soldats des armees ottomanes. Sur ce nombre pres de 15,000 ont ete soit en raison de leur religion, [illegible] retenus, soit en raison de leur origine des pays occupes, remis en liberte peu de temps apres leur capture ou leur reddition. 10,000 autres ont malgre les soins [illegible] succombe à la suite de leurs blessures ou les fatigues, des privations et de l'epuisement endures pendant la guerre. Plus de 9,000 personnes restent actuellement internes dans des différentes parties du royaume.

Vis-à-vis de toutes ces victimes de la lutte, le Gouvernement Royal hellénique a la conscience de s'être scrupuleusement acquitté des devoirs qui lui imposaient l'humanité et les usages internationaux. Il a secouru les prisonniers remis en liberté, il a soigné les malades et les blessés, il a pourvu à la sépulture des morts. Il s'est chargé de l'entretien des prisonniers, s'est efforcé de pourvoir en leur fournissant [illegible] qu'à ses propres troupes [illegible] en construisant, pour les loger, les baraquements nécessaires pour s'appuyer [illegible] et des casernes [illegible], enfin, versé régulièrement aux officiers prisonniers la même solde qu'à ses officiers de même grade.

[illegible] ces différents chefs [illegible] dépenses considérables qui suivant l'état détaillé [illegible] s'élèvent à la somme totale de [illegible],000,000 francs (voir tableau I).

De ces différentes [illegible] réclame le remboursement intégral conformément aux usages internationaux [illegible].

[illegible] dont relèvent les prisonniers, parce que c'est [illegible] dépenses [illegible] entretien ont été avancées par [illegible] État [illegible] la captivité de ses [illegible] grecs [illegible] ses forces militaires. Elles [illegible] tat [illegible] jamais refusé [illegible].

Spécialement pour ce qui concerne la solde payée aux officiers ottomans, le remboursement [illegible] par le Gouvernement Royal est formellement imposé par l'article 17 du Règlement de La Haye, ainsi conçu :—

"Les officiers prisonniers recevront la solde à laquelle ont droit les officiers de même grade du pays où ils sont retenus, à charge de remboursement par leur Gouvernement."

II.—Dommages dus à la Détention illégale de Navires grecs à Constantinople à la veille de la guerre.

A la veille de l'ouverture des hostilités, les autorités ottomanes ont, sans motif [illegible] et en violation des lois internationales, mis embargo à Constantinople sur plus de 14 vapeurs, voiliers et navires battant pavillon hellénique.

[illegible] les démarches énergiques faites par les particuliers intéressés [illegible] nationalité étrangère, près de la moitié de ces navires finirent par être relâchés, après [illegible] dommages.

Plus de la moitié des navires saisis continuent d'être détenus par le Gouvernement ottoman.

Quelques-uns de ces vaisseaux ont été réquisitionnés par lui au cours de la guerre.

La conduite illégale du Gouvernement ottoman a en outre obligé vingt-trois autres navires grecs [illegible] de rester confinés dans la mer Noire afin d'échapper à la [illegible] à Constantinople.

En saisissant les navires grecs, alors que la guerre n'était pas encore déclarée, le Gouvernement ottoman a méconnu le principe de la liberté de la navigation, admis et pratiqué par toutes les nations civilisées et [illegible] les engagements conventionnels qui le liaient vis-à-vis de la Grèce, notamment l'article [illegible] du traité de Commerce et de Navigation du 27 mai 1855, qui, non dénoncé par la sentence arbitrale des représentants des Grandes Puissances, réunis à Constantinople, [illegible] mars [illegible] avril, 1901, a, par le Traité de Commerce et de Navigation du 30 mars/12 avril 1903, continuant d'être en vigueur [illegible] articles du traité de 1903. Aux termes de ce texte: "Les bâtiments marchands des deux hautes parties contractantes navigueront en pleine liberté et sûreté dans les mers et eaux appartenant à chacune d'elles. Ils ne pourront être obligés d'aucune manière de décharger [illegible] leurs marchandises contre leur gré, ni forcés de les [illegible] en faveur de quelque compagnie ou corporation [illegible] de [illegible] que ce soit. [illegible] qu'ils ne pourraient [illegible] et d'en acheter d'autres qui ne serait [illegible]. Ils ne sont pas [illegible] saisis ou retenus malgré eux dans aucun cas sous [illegible] prétexte."

Cette violation du droit international [illegible] causés le l'état de guerre qui s'en est suivi. Le Gouvernement ottoman [illegible] la responsabilité de réparer tout l'ensemble du dommage qu'il a, directement ou indirectement, causé aux navires grecs [illegible] payer la valeur intégrale des navires et des cargaisons confisqués. Il doit réparer toutes les pertes subies par les intéressés dans chacun des navires dont les opérations ont été, par sa faute, arrêtées ou entravées. Il doit enfin indemniser les navires réquisitionnés en raison du service qu'ils ont été obligés de lui rendre.

L'état détaillé ci-annexé indique les sommes de 26,555,512 fr., ensemble que de ces différents chefs, le Gouvernement hellénique réclame au Gouvernement ottoman (voir tableau II).

III.—Dommages causés aux Sujets et aux Institutions grecs dans l'Empire ottoman.

Au cours des hostilités et en raison de l'état de guerre, nombre d'institutions grecques des [illegible] en Turquie et le [illegible] helléniques qui ont continué à y résider ont été exposés à des pertes matérielles considérables, dues au fait des autorités ottomanes: réquisitions militaires, expulsions arbitraires, fermeture des magasins, incendies et pillages, [illegible] par les [illegible] occasionnées par les forces armées, entraves apportées au commerce et à l'industrie, &c.

Le Gouvernement hellénique a été saisi de 118 réclamations ayant trait aux réquisitions et de 568 réclamations relatives aux autres sources de dommages indiquées. Faisant siennes ces diverses réclamations, il les soumet à la Commission financière. Il base sa demande sur [illegible] convention gréco-turque [illegible].

Aux termes de l'article [illegible] de la convention [illegible] par [illegible] art [illegible] des représentants des Grandes Puissances [illegible] à Constantinople [illegible] 20 mars/2 avril [illegible] les États contractants [illegible] les États de [illegible] réciproquement [illegible] service militaire [illegible] contre les [illegible]. C'est [illegible] que les autorités [illegible] procédé à la réquisition de chevaux, de [illegible], de voitures, &c., appartenant à des sujets hellènes. En leur déniant d'ailleurs la plupart du temps [illegible] reçu et les mêmes que les intéressés avaient droit à une indemnité de la part du Trésor ottoman.

Quant aux autres dommages causés aux sujets et aux institutions grecs en Turquie, la réclamation du Gouvernement hellénique s'inspire de tous les précédents analogues, et spécialement de celui de 1897 quand la Turquie avait [illegible] à la Grèce le paiement d'une somme de £T. 1[illegible] pour les dommages causés par la guerre à des particuliers. Les Grandes Puissances médiatrices estimèrent que le chiffre réclamé était hors de proportion avec la courte durée de la guerre et le très petit nombre de sujets ottomans [illegible], mais elles ne contestèrent pas le principe de la réclamation et se bornèrent à réduire l'élevé demande. En conséquence le traité de paix stipula (article [illegible]) que "la Grèce payera à la Turquie pour [illegible] des particuliers en raison des pertes causées par les forces grecques, la somme de £T. 100,000."

Fort de ce précédent, le Gouvernement hellénique demande un traitement semblable à celui qu'obtint la Turquie en 1897.

Pour tous ces dommages dont il assurera la réparation vis-à-vis de ses nationaux, le Gouvernement hellénique demande qu'il lui soit alloué une somme globale de 41,000,000 fr. (voir tableau III).

IV.—Dommages causés par les Forces ottomanes aux Habitants de l'Empire.

Au cours des hostilités, les armées ottomanes, fuyant devant les armées helléniques, ont laissé derrière elles un pays absolument dévasté par les pillages, les massacres et les incendies. Près de [illegible] villages ont été la proie des flammes. Plusieurs milliers de vieillards, de femmes et d'enfants, échappant à la mort, ruinés, affamés, exténués, ont cherché et trouvé refuge dans les provinces voisines de la Grèce. Durant plusieurs mois ils vécurent à la charge du Gouvernement hellénique, qui, la campagne d'Épire terminée, a dû leur fournir les premières ressources pour rentrer dans leur pays natal.

Le Gouvernement hellénique a été saisi de la part de ces malheureuses et innocentes victimes de la guerre de 414 réclamations dont il présente ci-annexé le relevé.

Faisant siennes ces réclamations, il les soumet à la Commission financière et base sa réclamation sur les raisons exposées dans le paragraphe précédent et demande qu'il lui soit alloué une somme globale de [illegible],000,000 de francs (voir tableau IV) pour couvrir les dépenses exposées et indemniser les intéressés.

V. *Dépenses relatives à l'Entretien et au Rapatriement des Réfugiés ottomans*

Fuyant devant le fer et les maux de la guerre, plusieurs milliers de sujets ottomans sont venus au cours de la lutte chercher un refuge dans les provinces occupées par les armées helléniques à Salonique. Le Gouvernement hellénique, obéissant à un sentiment d'humanité et, durant plusieurs mois, pourvu à leur entretien, il les a logés, nourris et secourus. Il a en outre pris les mesures nécessaires pour rapatrier ces malheureux en Turquie d'Asie aux frais et par les soins de ces derniers.

En agissant ainsi, il a rendu à la Turquie un service incontestable et il est tout à fait juste que les dépenses qu'il a ainsi encourues lui soient remboursées. Ce remboursement a un caractère plus impérieux encore que celui des dépenses relatives aux prisonniers de guerre.

Le Gouvernement hellénique se plaît à espérer que le Gouvernement ottoman s'empressera de prendre à sa charge cette dette d'honneur. Ces dépenses s'élèvent à environ 2,000,000 de francs dont le détail sera communiqué dans les délais dont notre Gouvernement nous a annoncé l'envoi.

VI. *Complément à ajouter au Tableau VII présenté précédemment et relatif aux bâtiments de guerre capturés pendant les hostilités de la guerre*

	Fr.
Au bas du tableau VII ci-dessus ajouter à la somme de	2,723,600
Indemnité pour le contrat d'affrètement	460,000
Indemnité pour les pertes éprouvées par le vapeur ottoman "Alamdia" au cours d'un voyage spécial qu'il a effectué sur l'ordre de la Sublime Porte	904,600
Le montant total du tableau VII ci-dessus sera donc	18,228,200

Observations

Au cas où les réclamations présentées à la restitution, à la fin de la guerre qui a pris fin, viendraient à dépasser le chiffre de 2,000,000 de francs, le Gouvernement hellénique se réserve d'inscrire les réclamations de même nature ultérieurement admises à la liste.

	Fr.
Indemnité pour les pertes subies par le commerce grec et pour les navires grecs et [illegible]	
Pour les sujets sur les cargaisons des vapeurs [illegible]	2,000,000
1. Pour les sujets [illegible]	1,000,000
2. Pour les réclamations présentées par les [illegible]	2,800,000
Indemnité pour les pertes subies par le commerce grec et pour les navires grecs et [illegible]	2,463,134
Indemnité pour les pertes éprouvées par les sujets grecs au cours de [illegible]	1,987,500

30821] No. 83

Board of Trade to Foreign Office.—(Received July 5.)

Sir,

Board of Trade, July 4, 1913.

WITH reference to your letter of the 30th June, with the final paragraph of which you transmitted a communication from the Balkan Delegates at Bucharest, I am directed by the Board of Trade to state that they are now informed by the registrar of Joint Stock Companies that the records of the company's registration office would not enable him to furnish a list of companies registered in the United Kingdom under the auspices which have been named for the purpose of carrying on operations in the territories ceded by Turkey to the Balkan States.

I am, &c.

GEO. J. STANLEY.

[30856] No. 84

Commercial Union Assurance Company to Foreign Office.—Received July 5.

Sir,

24, 25, and 26 Cornhill, London, July 4, 1913.

REFERRING to the published request from Foreign Office to the Board of Trade to supply copies of any contracts or agreements between British subjects from the Ottoman Government in respect of certain properties ceded by the latter to that Government by the Balkan States, I beg to state that the Balkan delegates at the Balkan Peace Conference at Bucharest, in order to represent that fact at the 2nd instant, wrote a letter to the Foreign Office, which was followed by a meeting of our business and legal representatives with the Foreign Office officials, at which the Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, was represented.

The Commercial Union has been represented in the Balkan States by a branch office at Salonica, and was duly registered at the British Consulate there. The Union has not been represented in Servia, but has had a working agreement with the general agent of the company with whom the business there was done. The Union has also had up to the present time a branch office at Constantinople, and has been in communication with its agents at the places given above. It has also established business agencies in all the towns mentioned in the list of agencies appended hereto, and has been in communication with its agents at the places given above. It has also established business agencies in all the towns mentioned in the list of agencies appended hereto, and has been in communication with its agents at the places given above.

In view of the facts stated above, we respectfully submit that the matters which present interests will be best represented by the Balkan delegates at the Balkan Peace Conference by entire exclusion from the Balkan States as far as we ourselves and our subsidiary company, the Union.

I have, &c.

JOSEPH PEAKE,

Deputy General Manager.

Enclosure in No. 84

Commercial Union Assurance Company's Agencies:

Adrianople	Gumuldjina
Cavala	Kirk Kisse
Drama	Seutli
Dedeagatch	Seres
Demotica	Xanth

Caledonian Insurance Company's Agencies:

Adrianople	Kesanli (Kuprala)
Cavala	Monastir
Dedeagatch	Salonica
Gumuldjina	Xanthi

[30798] No. 85

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 5.)

No. 106. (Telegraphic.)

Berne, June 4, 1913.

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs asks whether you would object to his having *relations* with Count Volkovitch, ex-delegate to Peace Conference.

Should you agree he would address request to Council of Ministers.

I mention fact that Volkovitch is a Russian subject as a possible ground of objection. Minister for Foreign Affairs pleaded that he had no other object in view but that he wished to avoid expenses of regular representative.

30811 No. 86

Sir H. Lowther (Vienna) to Sir Edward Grey (Received July 4)

(No. 149)
(Telegraphic) *Vienna, July 4, 1913.*

M. Tarlis assures a good authority that General Ivanof cannot possibly take over Salonica as he has established a large portion of his troops to the Albanian frontier.

(Sent to Belgrade and Salonica.)

[30915 No. 87

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey (Received July 4)

(No. 217)
(Telegraphic) *Sofia, July 4, 1913.*

Official Turkish statement to-day states 2nd Army 3rd Corps, which was besieging Scutari, has surrendered. Servian attacks against the Turkish positions on the Albanian frontier continue. Situation is unchanged, but Turks appear to have lost prospect of success.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[30814 No. 88

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 5.)

(No. 8.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 5, 1913.*

Hellenic Minister has been recalled from Sofia this morning, entrusting Greek interests to the French Minister.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

30916. No. 89

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 5.)

(No. 24.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 5, 1913.*

My telegram 23rd June, Delay.

Russian Minister left Varna to-day, and it is understood that Russian Government have given up all hope of getting Prime Minister to St. Petersburgh.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[30917] No. 90

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 5.)

(No. 220.)
Telegraphic *Sofia, July 5, 1913.*

Official bulletin states that a Servian force composed of one regiment, a squadron, and some artillery crossed the Bulgarian frontier on Thursday near Kustendil and was driven back with severe loss.

(Sent to Belgrade.)

[30918] No. 91

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 6.

(No. 221.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 5, 1913.*

My telegram No. 212 of 3rd July.

M. Danef remains temporarily Premier. Cabinet have not yet taken decision making a formal declaration of war against Greece and Servia, but departure of Greek Minister this morning renders war a *fait accompli* against that country.

Bulgarian Minister at Athens will be recalled.

Bulgarian Government are making capital out of Greek reference in my immediately preceding telegram, of treaty, in order to represent Servia as the aggressors.

(Sent to Belgrade and Athens.)

[30919] No. 92

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 6.)

(No. 252. Very Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 5, 1913.*

I HEAR on good authority that Austrian Government have made following offer to Bulgarian Government in order to prevent Austrian policy:—

1. To guarantee Bulgaria against Turkish attack.
2. To obtain Kirk Kilisse by force if necessary with acceptance of Turkish terms.
3. To create all difficulties for Servia and Montenegro during the war.
4. To obtain for Bulgaria five Corps Salonica during the war, Albania from Koritsa to Durazzo.

Above programme was shown before party chiefs by Prime Minister on 30th June at meeting at which King of Bulgaria presided. No decision was taken, as it is not believed King will go counter to very strong Austrian wishes unless Bulgarian hosts with reverses.

Sent to Vienna, Belgrade and Bucharest.

[30899] No. 93

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 7.

(No. 108.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 7, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 201 of 3rd July.

Austro-Hungarian Ministry for Foreign Affairs informs me that some time ago Austro-Hungarian Government, having learnt that Servian troops were quartered on Albanian territory, had instructed Austro-Hungarian representative at Belgrade to ask Servian Government for their recall. Nevertheless His Majesty's Government have instructed their representative at Belgrade to address similar demand to Servian Government. Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs has instructed Austrian Minister to support this action.

[30898] No. 94

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 116.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 7, 1913.*

BULGARIAN posts near Kilkish extending as far east as Dudunli have been captured by Greek centre force yesterday. Sixty guns of various calibres were abandoned by Bulgarians, who are reported to be in full retreat. Greek division on the right have reached Likovan.

[30900] No. 95.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July [illegible].)

No. 11[illegible]
(Telegraphic.) R. *Athens, July 5, 1913.*

H. E. Bulgarian representative, [illegible] leaves [illegible] with his staff [illegible] of Greek declaration of existence of state of war.

Sent to Bucharest.

30870 No. [illegible]

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July [illegible].)

No. 1[illegible]
[illegible] R. *Bucharest, July 5, 1913.*

[illegible] from Minister for Foreign Affairs that Bulgarians have now attacked at [illegible]

[illegible] State for Foreign Affairs [illegible] so far result of fighting [illegible] will be [illegible]

[illegible] at Belgrade.

Sent to Sofia and Bucharest.

30902] No. 9[illegible]

Sir [illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July [illegible].)

(No. 1[illegible]
(Telegraphic.) *[illegible] July [illegible], 1913.*

[illegible]

[illegible] to withdraw [illegible] any [illegible] the subject.

30910 No. 98.

[illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received [illegible].)

No. [illegible]
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July [illegible], 1913.*

[illegible]

[illegible] good authority that [illegible] have been ordered to prepare to receive [illegible]

[30903] No. 9[illegible]

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

No. 51[illegible]
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July [illegible], 1913.*

MY telegram No. [illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible] Austrian Ambassadors have [illegible] continued possession of [illegible] their objections [illegible] at the first suitable opportunity.

30914 No. 1[illegible]

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July [illegible].)

(No. [illegible] Confidential.)
Telegraphic. *Bucharest, July [illegible], 1913.*

SOFIA telegram No. [illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Sent to [illegible] Belgrade.

30920 No. [illegible]

Sir [illegible] to Sir [illegible].—(Received [illegible].)

No. [illegible]
[illegible] R. *Sofia, July [illegible].*

FOLLOWING [illegible] operations.

[illegible]

[illegible] progress [illegible]

(Sent to Belgrade.)

30913. No. [illegible]

Sir [illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July [illegible].)

No. 171
(Telegraphic.) R. *[illegible], 1913.*

I LEARN from Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that [illegible] will be sent to-day to [illegible] Sofia.

Sent to Sofia and Bucharest.

30928 No. 103.

Acting Consul-General [illegible] to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July [illegible].)

No. [illegible]
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 6, 1913.*

KUKUSH was not captured [illegible] there

[illegible] captured [illegible] July.

[illegible] of Nigrita before departure.

Total Greek casualties up to present [illegible]

Sent to Athens and Constantinople.

[30972.] No. 104

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 1.

(No. 63. Confidential.)

Sir,

Bucharest, June 26, 1913.

I HAD the honour last evening of being received in private audience by the King.

Speaking of the tension between the Balkan States His Majesty observed that though the situation had improved, in so far that M. Pashitch had withdrawn his resignation, it was still very anxious as to the outlook. Feeling was running high in the Bulgarian and Servian armies, both with the two forces face to face, fighting might begin at any moment. As regards Roumania's attitude, His Majesty explained her role as a restraining factor. If she could be induced above all to work for peace, and if that Roumania would do so was common knowledge, she was committed to enter the field and fight on one or other of the two sides required for the protection of her own interests. At the same time His Majesty's language left no room for doubt that Roumania would not stand by with folded arms and allow Bulgaria to crush Servia. His Majesty's Government, though anxious to see Bulgaria's legitimate aspirations satisfied, were strongly opposed to any attempt to dictate terms to Servia which would be incompatible with her existence as an independent State. His Majesty's language on this point was very emphatic, and left no room for doubt as to the attitude which Roumania would adopt in the event of Bulgaria attempting to carry out the threats which she had held out.

Speaking of the Albanian question, His Majesty said that the two languages which were now occupying the attention of the Powers, namely, the question which concerned Roumanians, and the delimitation of Southern Albania, were those of Koutzo Vlachs and of Moslem Roumanians, who were to be found in Albania, and not subjected to Greek oppression. His Majesty remarked that the Roumanian Minister had always maintained the Roumanian character of these two languages.

Speaking of Turkey, His Majesty said that the Young Turks had ruined the country. They had, however, suffered defeat, and he was anxious as to their future. He asked if England would prevent Bulgaria from ever getting possession of Constantinople. I would observe that Russia would have nothing to say to Bulgaria's ever getting Constantinople, to which remark he replied that Bulgaria might get Russian support to prevent Constantinople falling under Bulgarian influence, but that Great Britain alone had power to stop it. The question was to what extent she would be prepared to support Bulgaria's aspirations, which, if realized, would be extremely prejudicial to Roumania. If it were not known that the two Powers were on such friendly terms, I would have said that Great Britain's

I have, &c.
G. BARCLAY.

[30964.] No. 65.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 7.

(No. 111. Confidential.)

Sir,

Sofia, June 27, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to report that M. Madjarof called on me yesterday on his return from London. His Excellency expressed his regret at having to give up his post, but the appointment which he had accepted as Minister of the Interior was a very important one from the political point of view, and his party at home was therefore unable to refuse it.

He added that he had received from various quarters in the legation offices in the Foreign Office and Ladbroke Terrace the most cordial welcome, and that he had returned to his own country with his views greatly enlarged.

He then proceeded to discuss the present crisis, saying that he found the military party even more powerful than he had been led to expect, and that M. Daneff's position was no easy one. Not only were the army clamouring for war, but they were backed up by the entire Stamboulovist party, which was very powerful owing to their control of the regulars and comitajis throughout Macedonia.

M. Madjarof said that his brother-in-law M. Teodoroff, the Finance Minister, had striven continuously to preserve peace and he would support him on this policy. The present Cabinet, he wished me to assure you, was entirely pro-Russian, but the prestige and influence of Russia had fallen immensely of late, for reasons which I have already had the honour to report.

M. Madjarof feared that if M. Daneff yielded on any important point prior to arbitration his position would become untenable. He was bitterly accused by the chauvinists of having allowed Silistria to be bartered over to Roumania, and if not insisting on the retention of Roustchuk, if the Ministry gave way as regards any portion of the territory not mentioned in the treaty of alliance, Servia they would treat only be obliged to resign, but would not be able to go outside the frontiers.

I remarked that it was satisfactory to know that both his Excellency and M. Teodoroff were so pacifically disposed, which, I felt sure, was true sincerely to be hoped that the Bulgarian Government would see the way to submitting their case to His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia.

M. Madjarof concluded his remarks by stating that the policy of his party was to maintain the Balkan alliance, that as united the Balkan States would constitute an important factor, but that the future would be dismal indeed if they would become practically a negligible quantity from Europe's point of view.

I have, &c.
H. G. RUMBOLD.

31049. No. 100

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 36.)

Sir,

Cettinje, June 27, 1913.

BY a note verbale of Montenegrin Government of the 11th/24th inst. I was informed that they had appointed an official to represent their interests in the event of the war material also to take charge of the interests of Montenegrins at Scutari. A despatch from Prince Scouloudis despatch from Vice-Admiral Sir Cecil Burney stating that the officers selected Captain Radovitch had created an extremely bad impression among the foreign officers. He instructed his commanding officer to keep guard over the property and to prevent its removal. The case of which his claim for material were described as ridiculous.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs to whom I spoke earnestly yesterday said that orders should be given to the Captain Radovitch by another officer. I thanked M. Plamenatz for his promise but could not help thinking that a suitable officer could be chosen to assist in the removal of the war material, the appointment of a fanatical navy as proposed was *à priori* inadvisable, with an unfortunate passion for the Montenegrin protection of the interests of Montenegrins at Scutari might give rise to friction with part of the International Commission. I trusted that it would see that such a proposal would not be recommended.

I am aware of the terms of the agreements concluded between the Montenegrin authorities and the International Commission on the subject of the war material, &c., but I have more than once attempted to find a middle way to convey to M. Plamenatz that it was not in the best interests of his country to put forward exaggerated claims in this respect especially in small matters. I would merely mention such an instance, taken from my impression before when Admiral Burney, as I was carrying off of a strong box, said to contain papers and a few pounds belonging to our Albanian school. The Montenegrin Government took this and other portable property of the same sort as having belonged to the Turks Government, and even laid a proposal that the key should be sent from Scutari and that the papers and property of the school, if the ownership could be established should be restored. M. Plamenatz himself was not ashamed to lay claim to me to the furniture of the vali's office at Scutari—a few chairs and tables, to the best of my recollection of a very mean description, at present in use by the

Inter-state Commission. As will be seen from the enclosed despatches these claims have now been extended to stores on the roads.

Some correspondence has, I fear, been caused to the Commissariat by the interruption of telegraphic communication between Cettinje and Scutari. As long ago as the 16th May last I proposed to the Admiralty that the telegraphic and instrumental staff should be withdrawn from the Commission, or made up to the present establishment. Not having any definite answer to either course, the Montenegrin Government, acting, I think, on the principle that by keeping the question open they would obtain terms for the withdrawal of the telegraphic staff, have left the Commission on the 24th May under the impression that the Montenegrin Government had refused to accept any messages or telegrams for Scutari, and I know well that the Montenegrin officials in the interior have had the same impression. Secretary Means of His Majesty's Legation, Cettinje, has since the 24th May been the only channel of communication between Scutari and the outer world, and I regret that I have not been able to get out of the Montenegrin authorities any definite statement to the effect that they intend to withdraw their opposition to the withdrawal of the telegraphic staff.

I enclose herewith copies of Mr. Dering's despatch to Sir A. Barclay (referred to in his despatch) and of the despatch from Sir A. Barclay referred to therein.

I have &c.
J. de SALIS

Enclosure 1 in No. 106

Note verbale communicated to Count de Salis

Le Gouvernement Royal de Montenegro a l'honneur de faire savoir à la Légation Royale d'Angleterre à Cettinje que les autorités compétentes ont donné ordre de laisser passer les munitions de guerre et de bouche destinées aux troupes du Gouvernement Royal qui assiégent actuellement Scutari.

Le Ministère Royal des Affaires Etrangères a l'honneur de prier derechef la Légation Royale d'Angleterre de bien vouloir informer son Excellence Mr. le Commandant de Mr. Dering en quelle manière son Gouvernement Royal désire que les munitions de guerre et de bouche soient transportées à Scutari.

Cettinje, le 2 (15) juin 1913.

Enclosure 2 in No. 106

Lieut.-Colonel Barclay to Count de Salis

Sir

Scutari, June 22, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to request that you will be good enough to inform the Montenegrin Government that Lieutenant Scott-Bentinck, charged with the removal of Artillerist Captain Radanovitch's supporters, is very anxious that no impediments whatsoever be placed in the way of the departure of the Montenegrin officers and men, as I trust I may succeed in the removal of the above-mentioned officer and party from Scutari to-morrow.

During the last international crisis we have experienced the greatest courtesy from the Montenegrin officers, and I can testify to the cordial relations which have hitherto existed. In the present crisis it is important that at the last moment no unfriendly feeling should be aroused.

Captain Radanovitch is not in any way to be considered as a prisoner. He is expressly anxious that his movements should be unfettered, and his claims for material when I have now only to be stores for the troops are numerous.

I take that the Montenegrin Government is now in a position to fully trust the safeguarding of their interests to me.

A serious case of gross discourtesy to a member of the Commission by the Italian Vice-Consul has necessitated my asking this immediate application for his removal.

I have &c.
CECIL BURNEY, *Lieut.-Colonel*

[31050]

No. 107

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 37.)
Sir,

Cettinje, June 28, 1913.

THE Bulgarian Minister called on me this afternoon and said that what had occurred was probably his last interview with King Nicholas. The Montenegrin Government had, he considered, always been favourably disposed towards Bulgaria, but the Montenegrins had bitterly opposed Bulgarian interests during the late war. He had, however, been instructed by his Government to be conciliatory to Montenegro, and although not wishing to enter into any engagements, he was to endeavour to ascertain what the views of the Montenegrin Government were as to the future. He had, however, been directly taken to task by the King and Queen for having done so, and had been told that they considered that after the action of the Servians in deserting Bulgaria for Servia it was not for Bulgaria to make the first advances, and that Montenegro would not consider itself bound by any engagements Bulgaria might enter into.

M. Koseff then suggested that Bulgaria should evacuate Montenegrin territory, and that an agreement be made with Montenegro, which would secure to Montenegro the annexation of Scutari, Montenegro undertaking to withdraw her troops from the Scutari vilayet, and to support Montenegrin claims at the Conference. He also suggested that Montenegro should withdraw her troops from Adrianople, and that Bulgaria should withdraw her troops from Tchataldja, and that Montenegro should support Bulgaria's claims to Adrianople. The Minister was told that the King and Queen were both in favour of peace, especially as they were the only Balkan States which had not suffered from the war, and that, even if Montenegro were victorious, Bulgaria would be in a position to dictate terms to Montenegro. Even in the event of a war with Servia, Bulgaria would be in a position to dictate terms to Montenegro. Even in the event of a war with Servia, Bulgaria would be in a position to dictate terms to Montenegro. Even in the event of a war with Servia, Bulgaria would be in a position to dictate terms to Montenegro.

Since the above interview the Bulgarian Government have proposed to King Nicholas that the Montenegrin troops should withdraw from Adrianople, and that Montenegro should support Bulgaria's claims to Adrianople.

I have &c.
J. de SALIS.

[30981]

No. 108

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 149.)
Sir

Vienna, June 27, 1913.

IN accordance with your instruction of the 25th instant, I have had a further conversation with M. Skerlitz concerning the Serb-Bulgarian differences, and asked him whether he had yet received any report of the Servian Government's intentions. He replied that he had received a telegram from Belgrade stating that their Government were prepared to withdraw their troops from Bulgarian territory on condition that Bulgaria withdrew her troops from Adrianople, Tchataldja, and Kirk Kilisse, and that Bulgaria would not attack Montenegro. He said that the Servian Government had also given assurances to the Greek Government that they would withdraw their troops from Salonica, and that they would not attack Bulgaria. He said that the Servian Government had also given assurances to the Greek Government that they would withdraw their troops from Salonica, and that they would not attack Bulgaria.

M. Skerlitz replied that it was to be hoped that Servia would withdraw her troops from Albania, as Austria-Hungary was prepared to prevent Bulgarian territory from extending up to the frontier of Albania as soon as the case of the Bulgarian withdrawal from the treaty was carried into effect. He said that Servia's Government had already given evidence that they were carrying out the withdrawal of their troops from Albania, as they had withdrawn them with the Albanians. Unless, therefore, the Bulgarians had left, or had left from the Albanians by Greek and Servian territory, the future position of Servia would be most precarious, and she would have no security.

The project of a railway to the Adriatic upon the basis of necessity for the Servians were about to abandon it, stronger than ever, for it was apparent that they need not regret it. Roger Radanovitch, of his set down as an ardent advocate of the railway to the Adriatic coast of the country through which it must pass. He could not understand Bulgarian action in Servia by the powers as urged upon us to obtain a railless concession.

I have &c.
RUMBOLD.

No. 109.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received June 7.*)

(No. 45.)

Sir,

Sophia, June 30, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith an interesting despatch from the military attaché to His Majesty's Legation giving an estimate of the cost to Bulgaria of the late war with Turkey and of the upkeep of the mobilised army up to the end of the present month.

I have, &c.

H. O. BAX-IRONSIDE.

Enclosure in No. 109.

Lieutenant-Colonel Fyfe to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. [illegible].)

Sir,

Sophia, June [illegible], 1913.

THE Finance Office of the Great Staff has recently supplied me with figures that give some estimate of the cost of the war to Bulgaria and of the upkeep of the mobilised army up to the end of May.

On the 1st September, 1912, the national debt was as follows:—

	£
Consolidated debt	6[illegible],000,000
Non-consolidated debt	4[illegible],000,000
Total	[illegible],000,000

On the 1st May, 1913, the national debt was as follows:—

	£	£
Consolidated debt		21,000,000
Non-consolidated debt:		
To National Bank	6,[illegible],000	
,, Treasury bonds	2,[illegible],000	
,, Commissary notes	2,[illegible],000	
		4[illegible],000
Total		1,[illegible],000

From the above it appears that the actual expenditure on account of the war up to the 1st May was 372,000,000 fr. In order to arrive at the expenditure up to the end of June, another 22,000,000 fr. should be added. This figure is reached by taking the cost of maintenance of the mobilised army as 1½ mobilisation days and the number of men as 440,000. The total expenditure up to the end of June therefore approximates to 412,000,000 fr.

In order to arrive at the total cost of the war two further sums must be added: (*a*) the capital needed in order to provide pensions for the families of those who are killed and for the wounded, and (*b*) the sum that is required to replace material that has been used up, or rendered useless. The estimate of the amount required for these two purposes is 470,000,000 fr.

The cost of the war up to the end of June amounts, therefore, in round numbers to 882,000,000 fr. This sum represents 208 fr. per head of the population.

I have, &c.

F. LYON, *Military Attaché.*

No. 110.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 7.*)

(No. 574.)

Sir,

Constantinople, July 2, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's consul-general at Salonica reporting the landing of Russian troops at Mount Athos.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 110.

Consul-General Lamb to Sir C. Lowther.

(No. 56. Confidential.)

Sir,

Salonica, June 25, 1913.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 42 of the 13th February last, I have the honour to report that the Russian minister-yacht which arrived here this morning from Constantinople landed yesterday 130 Russian soldiers fully armed and equipped, at the Russian monasteries of St. Panteleimon, Mount Athos.

These men, who belong to the 5th infantry regiment at present stationed at Sevastopol, were transferred to the new steamer from the Russian cruiser lying off Constantinople immediately before the former weighed anchor on the evening of the 23rd. A small post of Greek soldiers had previously been established at the monastery of St. Pantaleimon for the ostensible purpose of maintaining order amongst the Monks, who have for some time past been greatly agitated by a theological discussion over the divinity of the name of Christ, and it is probable that this fact which has provided the Russian Government with the pretext for their present action.

I understand that a post of fifty Bulgarian soldiers is similarly established at the Bulgarian monastery of Zographos.

I have, &c.

HARRY H. LAMB.

No. 111.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 577.)

Sir,

Constantinople, July 2, 1913.

WITH reference to Sir G. Lowther's despatch No. 424 I have the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's consul-general at Salonica reporting on Greco-Bulgarian and Greco-Servian boundary lines.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 111.

Consul-General Lamb to Sir G. Lowther.

(No. 55.)

Sir,

Salonica, June 24, 1913.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 54 of the 4th instant relative to the agreement signed between Colonel Dousmanis and General Ivanoff for the purpose of establishing a line of demarcation between the spheres of Greek and Bulgarian occupation respectively, I have the honour to give the following rough indications of the line so established:—

Starting from the Touzla Peninsula, which forms the north-eastern extremity of the Bay of Leftera, the line crosses the coast range (Mount Symvolon, near the point called Tchatal Tepe (450 metres), whence it strikes in a north-westerly direction as far as the village of Menteshel (or Messeli), leaving Pravista to the Bulgarians. Thence it turns south-west to follow the crest of Mount Pangharion by the summits called respectively Vigla (855 metres, Pilafl-Tepe (872 metres) and Assar Tepe

(9.5 metres) ... point above the village of Seraltos whence it turns westwards, descending a lateral valley running into Lake Takinos in such a way as to leave Somalitos to the Bulgarians and Provishta or Pirvishta to the Greeks. The line then traverses the lake, which it leaves just before the outfall of the Stromnitza Kara-sou, to strike once more westwards between the villages of Mekes and Sasaltene which latter, as well as the neighbouring village of Orlik covering the bridge of that name over the Stromnitza is abandoned to the Bulgarians. From Mekes the line traverses in a south-westerly direction rough wooded country following that of the old carriage road to Serres, leaving the villages of Ilharmar Khoraa, and Ilinovo to the Greeks, but Isarevo and Lugovo to the Bulgars. From the heights between Isarevo it passes to the north of Vasoka, Glavesse, and Amatchkoi to the Lagos Vidjikheul and Arutovo whence it crosses the Vardar and the course of the Vardar till it meets the Serbian frontier near the bridge of Gradsko.

It is scarcely known if the Greek Government accepts this line as likely to provide a satisfactory boundary by giving the overland portion of the coveted territories absolutely to the Greeks. Except as far as it passes the small cross strip east and west of the Stromnitza, it does not seem to approximately represent the frontier which the Greeks hope to obtain. As a matter of fact the main portion of the Greek troops has already been withdrawn from this strip which has been occupied by the Serbian troops.

The Serbians and Greeks appear also to have come to an agreement as to a common boundary which has failed to be reduced to writing, but which contains some new points of interest. It would seem that the Vardar slightly to the north of Gradsko, following a lateral valley to the west, struck upon the mountains of Gregorcani and Kadjibal and then, after describing a semi-circle so as to leave the latter street to Greece, the line passes slightly to the north of Ilinovo, strikes the Strumnitza at the Preste Lake.

According to this agreement, the Greeks are to retain Kilkis together with the villages south of Kilkis, forts evacuated by the Serbs but also to cede to the latter the whole of the fourth sanjak district of Gevgheli.

I have, &c.
HARRY H. LAMB

[30973] No. 112

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 7.

(No. 1 Confidential.)
Sir,

Petchevat, July 2, 1913.

I NOTICE from extracts in the Austrian press reports received in Bucharest suspect, that Austria complains that Russian Ministers in Bucharest have used their influence among the Roumanians to induce the Roumanians to mobilise.

M. Radoslavoff and M. Salandra were both in Bucharest at the time during the past two days I spent there, and I should be surprised to learn that the Russian Minister had taken any such step without consulting his colleagues on account of the strength of Russian influence at Belgrade. But also, I doubt that it would be to the interests permanently of the Roumanians from the point of view of Austria, whose influence they have ever since been used throughout to counterbalance Russian, as regards M. Radoslavoff, he has, I know, been recently under the impression that Austria was willing to agree to the cession of Silistria to Roumania, and I do not believe that M. Salandra has ever given up the idea of obtaining Silistria from the Government to whom it belonged. I have also strong reasons for believing that the Roumanian Government have not been encouraged by Austria to make demands which would be distasteful to Russia, and I do not think that Austria is pledging herself to Bulgaria against certain concessions.

Certainly the Roumanians would not like to see Bulgaria crushed, in order to ensure Bulgaria's not attacking Roumania, but I do not think that Roumania would ever attempt to mobilise except in case of war.

I have, &c.
G. BARCLAY

[31040] No. 113.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 169.)
Sir,

Rome, July 3, 1913.

THE Secretary-General of the Italian Foreign Office observed to me this morning that he had heard that the British Admiral at Scutari had, in a private conversation discussed the question of whether it might be desirable to apply the international regime then existing to the Albanian ports such as Durazzo and Valona. He did not believe that these observations had any authority, but he thought it worth mentioning that such a proposal would not be supported by Austria or Italy. The difficulties at Vallona had now been solved, Essad Pasha who had at one time adopted a menacing attitude, had finally left Italian protection and Government had now reoccupied his place with them, and had left Albania on friendly terms. He was therefore, as I was already coming to hope, hopeful that the visit of Prince William of Wied to Durazzo would be successful. He also was sorry to hear of the proposal to establish a Dutch gendarmerie in Albania, as he thought that the Albanians would strongly object to any system of control other than that of the Powers themselves. He said that it was suggested in some quarters that Italy should occupy Valona, but that the Italian Government had no intention of doing so, and that they were convinced that it was to the interest of Albania that Valona should remain in Albanian hands.

I have, &c.
RENNELL RODD.

[31041] No. 114

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

No. 170. (Confidential.)
Sir,

Rome, July 3, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Russian Ambassador has since called to see me and communicated to me the substance of the conversation which he had had with your predecessor on the subject of the Russian Minister at Belgrade who, as you will recollect, was reported to be about to be appointed to Sofia. He said that Monsieur Hartwig, the Russian Minister at Belgrade who, as you will recollect, was reported to be about to be appointed to Sofia, was reported to be about to be appointed to Sofia, was reported to be about to be appointed to Sofia

the Bulgarian and the Greek and Servian forces in Macedonia. Yesterday there was strong divergence of opinion in the Cabinet as to whether the moment had come for mobilisation. M. Take Jonesco, Minister of Interior, urged strongly that it had but was overcome by M. Marghiloman and the Conservative members of the Cabinet, and it was decided that orders for mobilisation should be postponed until enquiry had been made at Athens, Belgrade, and Sophia as to whether the respective Governments considered that a state of war already existed.

To whatever cause M. Maiorescos hesitation in the past few days has been due, whether it was pressure from Austria, or the hope that Bulgaria would at the last moment make proposals for Roumania's neutrality in return for territorial concessions—I cannot but think that his hesitation has been unfortunate in the interest of peace. It would, I doubt not, have been better in the general interest that Roumania should have remained neutral, not at last moment as spectators, interested in the war between the Balkan States, but when it was first threatened to materialise, would, I firmly believe, have been better to have met a Balkan war threatening from after war had broken out. It seems to me, from the point of view of this country, that mobilisation would have acted as a check on Bulgaria who, if she was, as is believed, on the aggressor in the recent fighting, has well have been encouraged by the hesitation shown by Roumania, in the hope that Austria would find this country less ready to resist pressure than was the case. The effect that Roumanian mobilisation might have had on the Bulgarian Government is made clear in what constituted what Count Mensdorff has been pleased to describe as the resignation of Monsieur Daneff, the Bulgarian Minister, on the Saturday, the day before the Sobranje, the chief factor, to prevent the French Minister to Sofia, as reported by my immediately preceding despatch, that mobilisation should not be declared.

I have, &c.
G. BARCLAY

[30983] No. 116.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 28.)
Sir,

Belgrade, July 5, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of two despatches which I have received from His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Monastir, the originals having been addressed to His Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople upon the subject (1) of an reported understanding between the Servian and Greek Governments as to the outlines of a common frontier from a point south of Gheveghe, to the east shore of Lake Presba, and (2) the recent enrolment of Exarchists by the Servians.

I have, &c.
RALPH PAGET

Enclosure 1 in No. 116.

Vice-Consul Greig to Sir G. Lowther.

(No. 31. Confidential.)
Sir,

Monastir, June 23, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to report that according to information received from a source generally reliable, the Servian and Greek Governments have come to an understanding as to the general outlines of a frontier running from a point south of Gheveghe, traversing the Moglenian region, passing some 6 miles north of Florina and striking the eastern shore of Lake Presba near Nakolets.

The frontier now proposed would differ from that outlined in the last paragraph of my despatch No. 25 of 18th May, mainly in the following features:—

Gheveghe, to be Servian instead of Greek.
The northern portion of the Moglenian district to be Servian instead of Greek.
The southern portion of Lake Presba to be Greek instead of Servian.

The representative of Monastir of the Servian Ministry of Foreign Affairs assures me that Bulgarian demands for the evacuation of the occupied territory in this district are likely to be answered by declarations of annexation based on this understanding.

I am also informed that a frontier commission, consisting of two Greek and two Servian officers is to immediately begin the work of more precise delimitation.

As a result of the present agreement a number of villages in the plain of Monastir between Florina and Kenali have been evacuated by the Serbs.

The inhabitants of these villages are mostly Exarchists, and the Bulgarian Archbishop of Monastir tells me that they view with misgivings their present change of allegiance, preferring the wraps of the Serbs to the scorpions of the Greeks.

The Exarchist priest of Bouff one of the villages evacuated, has taken refuge here.

I have, &c.
C. A. GREIG.

Enclosure 2 in No. 116.

Vice-Consul Greig to Sir G. Lowther.

(No. 40. Confidential.)
Sir,

Monastir, June 25, 1913.

ON page 3 of my despatch No. 36 of the 14th instant I had the honour to report on the formation at this district of a force of "Frontier Gendarmes" consisting mainly of Moslems. It was also reported that the men recruited up to that date included a few Exarchists and that the Bulgarian officers of certain villages had refused to be enrolled.

On the 19th instant some 60 of the recruits were despatched, with uniforms, under a Servian officer to Uskub, where they are to undergo a course of instruction.

Since my last despatch on this subject a very considerable number of Exarchists have been taken for this service, and it is now apparent that there exists not a deliberate policy, savouring of aggression, on the part of the Servian authorities, to enrol Exarchists before Greeks, but rather a desire to secure the services of Exarchists who have been known as active members of the late Servian consular staff, or who are known to be otherwise active in taking part in Bulgarian propaganda. The object is to remove these persons, or others of activity by a sufficient number of enrolments to wholesale arrest and deportation.

The black list is supposed to contain about 200 names.

There is reason to believe that the Moslems of the "Frontier Gendarmerie" will ultimately be sent towards the Bulgarian frontier to prevent communication between the Servian forces from the Vardar and those of the Bulgarians. The Bulgarian officers of the force are likely to be sent to the Allied frontiers.

I hear that a Servian band has been actively engaged under a voivode named Stepan in the Demir Hissar region between Resna and Kichevo, and that similar bands are being formed in the Monastir district to deal with Bulgarian guerilla warfare.

I have, &c.
C. A. GREIG.

[30984] No. 117.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 129.)
Sir,

Belgrade, July 4, 1913.

IN my despatch No. 125 of the 25th ultimo I reported that, in order to strengthen his position, M. Pashitch intended on the 26th June to inform the Skupshtina of the circumstances under which he had tendered his resignation, and to request them to decision as to whether he should remain in office or not, his policy being to accept for Servia the arbitration of the Czar without any reserves.

The sitting of the Skupshtina on the 26th June was held with closed doors, as it was feared there might be some highly uncomplimentary remarks concerning Russia, and no account of the proceedings has been permitted to transpire, but nothing leading to a definite result appears to have occurred, and the Prime Minister announced that he would be prepared to make a declaration and submit his policy to the vote of the Skupshtina the following afternoon, the 27th June. When, however, the moment for doing so arrived, M. Pashitch found the atmosphere so hostile to him that he again postponed, amid angry cries from the deputies, his statement until the morning of the 30th June.

On that date M. Pashitch finally made a long *exposé*, which, after giving an account of the correspondence which had passed between the Servian and Bulgarian Governments without producing any favourable result, after referring to the offer of the Czar to undertake arbitration in the dispute and His Majesty's invitation to the Premiers to come to St. Petersburgh, and after setting forth the Servian view as to what the scope of the arbitration should be, concluded as follows:—

"Après avoir acquis la conviction que le différend serbo-bulgare serait résolu sur une base plus large, comme celle des articles [illegible] secret et que [illegible] l'un point de vue supérieur [illegible] serait prise sur [illegible] de toutes les données [illegible] à son interprétation [illegible] à son exécution [illegible] de du différend [illegible] serait procédé à la solution [illegible] bulgare le Gouvernement Royal serbe [illegible] gréco-bulgare [illegible] lorsque l'arbitrage pourrait être [illegible] sur la base [illegible] et dans le sens [illegible].

Les arguments présentés [illegible] de la Serbie dans [illegible] exposé à [illegible] légitimer et à approuver les [illegible] de la Serbie [illegible] Gouvernement bulgare [illegible] révision du traité [illegible] à Sa Majesté Impériale [illegible] de Russie [illegible] que dans le mémorandum.

"Le Gouvernement Royal de Serbie [illegible] qu'il a fait sien dans l'exposé à la Skoupchtina.

"En acceptant l'invitation [illegible] le Gouvernement Royal serbe [illegible] de [illegible] la bulgare [illegible] par suite [illegible] ses dispositions [illegible] de [illegible]."

Just as the debate upon this statement was about to commence news arrived to the effect that the Bulgarians had attacked [illegible] from Ghevgheli to Ishtip, that [illegible] and that [illegible] had been taken by the Bulgarians. The Skupshtina [illegible] the following morning, when [illegible] was passed. This vote would have [illegible] M. Pashitch to proceed to St. Petersburgh [illegible] the present hostilities [illegible] discussion [illegible].

It is not easy from the [illegible] published by the press bureau which, though [illegible] constitute the only source of information to distinguish what has [illegible] to the [illegible] the Bulgarians [illegible] the Servian [illegible] forces [illegible] of the [illegible] June and [illegible] Ghevgheli [illegible] following [illegible] to have been some very [illegible] fighting [illegible] Palanka, [illegible] the Servians [illegible] Bulgarians [illegible] captured [illegible] the enemy. On [illegible] the number of Servian [illegible] to 7,000, and [illegible] it is thought [illegible] Servian [illegible].

There [illegible] reports that the Bulgarians have been [illegible] the wounded.

Meanwhile the Bulgarian Minister and his staff still remain in Belgrade, and war is not yet officially declared [illegible] Skupshtina recently addressed a message to the army [illegible] effect that it would [illegible] with enthusiasm the march of the glorious Servian standards.

I have, &c.
RALPH PAGET

P.S.—A copy of M. Pashitch's [illegible] statement is enclosed in case it should appear [illegible] to print it.*

R. P.

* Not printed.

[31033]

No. 118.

Mr. Carnegie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received [illegible])

No. 361.)

Sir,

Paris, July [illegible], 1913.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, with reference to my despatch No. 348 of the 28th ultimo, a copy of a letter addressed to His Majesty's Ambassador by the Comité libanais de Paris enclosing a copy of a communication presented by them to the Balkan Financial Commission now sitting here in which they set forth the financial claims of the Lebanon against the Ottoman Treasury.

I have, &c.
LANCELOT D. CARNEGIE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 118.

The Comité libanais de Paris to Sir F. Bertie.

Excellence,

[illegible]

NOUS avons l'honneur de vous communiquer le texte [illegible] le Comité du Liban, que nous venons de présenter à la Commission financière internationale siégeant à Paris.

Nous vous prions, &c.
Pour le Comité libanais de Paris,
Le Président,
CHEKRI GANEM.

Le Secrétaire,
KHAIRALLAH.

Enclosure 2 in No. 118.

Letter addressed to the Balkan Financial Commission by the Comité libanais de Paris.

M. le Président de la Commission financière internationale siégeant à Paris.

Paris, le [illegible] juillet, 1913.

LES Comités libanais de Paris, [illegible] ont l'honneur de vous exposer:

Que les délégués de la [illegible] dans le [illegible] de la [illegible] commission ont omis de faire figurer [illegible] les [illegible] de la lettre [illegible] les [illegible] du Gouvernement libanais sur le Trésor impérial;

Que cette omission est [illegible] crise [illegible] expressément [illegible] traité international;

Qu'aux termes de l'article [illegible] du règlement organique du Liban le Trésor ottoman s'est engagé à pourvoir aux excédents des dépenses [illegible] nécessaires à la marche régulière de l'administration [illegible] dépassent [illegible] les impôts fixés à un maximum de 7,000 bourses, soit £ T. 35,000;

Que depuis 1878 le Gouvernement central refuse de combler le déficit constant et progressif du budget libanais;

Que le Gouvernement libanais est en possession des pièces officielles constatant depuis 1878 la somme annuelle que la Turquie reconnaissait devoir au Liban;

Que les avantages, d'ordre pécuniaire, assurés au Liban par l'article [illegible] précité, étaient destinés dans la pensée des Puissances signataires du règlement libanais, à compenser pour cette province la perte de ses [illegible] et historiques et d'importants droits [illegible].

En conséquence les susdits comités ont l'honneur de vous prier de vouloir bien faire le nécessaire afin que le Gouvernement libanais soit admis à faire constater et vérifier sa créance contre le Trésor impérial ottoman.

Par mandat pour les Comités libanais,
Le Président du Comité libanais de Paris,
CHEKRI GANEM.

Le Secrétaire,
K. T. KHAIRALLAH.

[31158] No. 119

Messrs. Teofani and Co. to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

36, 37, and 37A, Alfred Place, Tottenham Court Road,
London, July 5, 1913.

Sir,

WE beg to inform you that, having a branch of our business established at Cavalla in Macedonia, we see in the daily press that the Bulgarians are imprisoning many of the leading people interested in the tobacco industry. We ourselves have large and valuable stocks of tobacco in that town which it will be impossible to replace, and in view of the acts of the Bulgarians, we are very much afraid that unless the strongest representations are made by the British Government to the Bulgarian Government these stocks will be destroyed or irreparably damaged.

We bring these facts to your notice so that your Excellency may take such steps to protect our interests as you may deem necessary.

We are, &c.
TEOFANI AND CO. (Limited).

[31128] No. 120

Sir C. Hardinge to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 248.)
Telegraphic. *St. Petersburg, July 6, 1913.*

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs told me to-day that the Bulgarian Government were, pending the dispute to protect themselves against Roumania, but that they were refusing to intervene on the ground that Bulgaria is to be cut off from all her outlets to the Ægean Sea.

He asked me what I thought of the situation, and I replied that I was not in a position to express any opinion as to the attitude which Russia might assume, but that I could not help thinking that the Bulgarian Government would be well advised to make concessions to Roumania.

His Excellency then went on to say that he had received reports from Bucharest that Roumania was proudly insisting on having a voice in the settlement of the Macedonian question, and that she was refusing to listen to Austrian counsels. He was very satisfied with the reports which he had received from Vienna as to the friendly disposition of the Austrian Government. He remarked to me that differences between the allies were so great that even had they accepted arbitration, war could not well have been averted, and that any attempt on the part of one side attempting utterly to crush the other would be necessary for European intervention.

[30929] No. 121

Mr. Mallet to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 321.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 7, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 316 of 5th July.

In spite of secrecy observed there is some reason to believe that Turkish force has already begun to move out from Tchataldja with the object of occupying Chorlu, Rodosto, &c., up to Enos-Media line. Idea is that Bulgaria may be forced to renounce claim to war indemnity and that possibly Adrianople might be regained.

(Sent to Sofia.)

[31216] No. 122

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 109.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Posilipo, July 7, 1913.*

YOUR telegram of 4th July. Servian troops in Albanian towns.

Desired instructions have been sent to Italian Minister at Belgrade.

[31220] No. 123.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 88. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 7, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 86 of 5th July.

I hear confidentially that Austrian Minister has been instructed to sound Roumanian Government as to whether, supposing that Austria could induce Bulgaria to offer Turtukai-Baltchik line, Roumania would be content and would demobilise.

(Sent to Vienna, Sofia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[31209] No. 124

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 172.)
(Telegraphic.) *London, Belgrade, July 7, 1913.*

BULGARIAN Minister leaves Belgrade to-day.

[31237] No. 125

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 401. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 7, 1913.*

SIR H. BAX-IRONSIDE'S telegram No. 252 of 5th July.

It seems to me that the information given as to the above to agency should be received with great reserve, as it may have been put into circulation by the Bulgarian Government to alarm Russia, with the object to make her counsel moderation with better offers to Bulgaria. I have little doubt that Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs is making great efforts to arrange differences between Roumania and Bulgaria peacefully. I learn, however, from a very confidential source that the weight of opinion among officials in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs is in favour of Austria giving her unqualified support to Roumania should it be found impossible to adjust differences between her and Bulgaria.

I learn at the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs great misgivings exist as to the reliability of the Bulgarian Government, and therefore they are very loth to enter into any engagements with them.

As regards supposed Austrian efforts to restrain Turkey from attacking Bulgaria, I am informed that this matter is so far not occupying the attention of the Austrian Government as the imminent danger appears to exist that Turkey may refrain to take part in new Balkan crisis.

[31239] No. 126.

Sir L. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 253.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 7, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from military attaché for Director of Military Operations:—

"No official information is available to-day except that men of 3rd class of Opchelnich aged 47 and 48 are being called up. I learn on good authority that 2nd army is being slightly reinforced by troops from 4th. Third army commenced its move westward yesterday. Roumanian mobilisation only commenced 5th July. 330,000 men are being mobilised, and army should be ready to advance 16th July."

(Sent to Bucharest and Belgrade.)

[31240] No. 127

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.— Received July 7.)

(No. 255.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 7, 1913.*

THE Bulgarian representatives at Belgrade and Cettinje have been recalled.
(Sent to Belgrade.)

[31241] No. 128.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 256. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 7, 1913.*

THE Bulgarian Government have approached the Russian Government respecting action at Constantinople. In reply they have been informed that the Imperial Government cannot at present negotiate with a view to coercion.
Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.

[31242] No. 129.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 7.)

No. 257.
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 7, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 254 of 4th July.
Prime Minister informed me that he considered that Bulgaria is at war with either Greece or Servia.
If Greek Government say so we would accept status quo.
As regards Servia he does not see that question was of great importance to either powers.
I said I knew nothing to say about military situation but that Government were getting news from Kavalla and Tsaribrod. Servians getting on well, receiving near those places.
He said Mr. Venizelos who was in Belgrade at time of conference that Bulgaria had got Albania all and that situation was not what he had expected before leaving London.
The news from Kavalla and Tsaribrod appears pleasing Bulgarians, and reassurances becoming clearer.
Prime Minister now apparently meant his last offer, but I am not sure.
Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.

[30724 No. 130.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir G. Buchanan.

(No. 504.)
Telegraphic, *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 314 of 3rd July.
I do not suppose there is any danger of Austrian intervention unless there are great and lasting Greek and Servian successes, and I think the danger of intervention will be minimised if it is made clear to Austria that no interference with north of river Scutari by creatures of Albania as soon as settled will be permitted. If Greece and Servia by their own victories secure a continuous frontier between themselves at expense of Bulgaria it should make it easier to give up Koritza to Albania; and if Austria feel that agreement about southern and south-western frontier of Albania was thus likely to be brought within reach it would be a further incentive to non-intervention on her part. This argument might be used, if need be, to calm Austria if there are startling successes by Greece and Servia, but it must not be supposed that Austria will be less stiff about Koritza if Bulgaria wins.

[30798] No. 131

Sir Edward Grey to Count de Salis.

(No. 74.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 106 of 4th July.
I have no objection to continuing *relations officielles* with Count Vorovitch.
Inform Minister for Foreign Affairs.

[31662] No. 132

Sir Edward Grey to Earl Granville.

No. 226.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913.*

THE German Ambassador told me to-day that the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs had agreed with the German Minister for Foreign Affairs, at their recent meeting at, as it was quite impossible to arrange a definite form of government for Albania before the end of this month when the *reunion* at London would be suspended its meetings, the best plan would be to establish a Provisional Government to last to the end of the year. It could, of course, then be prolonged if necessary. He said, however, that he could not state this privately as the Austrian Government had not yet accepted the proposal.

I said that the Commission de Controle proposed by the Austrians and Italians had been suggested for five years.

The Ambassador said that this commission was not intended by Austria to have the administration of Albania.

I observed that in that case, it was difficult to see exactly what it was going to control. However I would support anything that would best establish a Provisional Government.

I told the Ambassador that the Austrian Ambassador had said to me to-day that, though Count Berchtold was considering my suggestion about setting up the Commission de Contrôle for administration immediately, he suggested that we might revert to the original idea of letting Austria and Italy draw up the definitive organisation for Albania, and that they should do it on the spot. I considered that would be very inconvenient, withdrawing together the last proposal that has been made by Austria and Italy for the Commission de Controle, and to substitute a proposal that Austria and Italy should send persons to Albania to draw up a scheme of organisation, and do this would give rise to suspicions of partition of Albania between Austria and Italy.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[31663] No. 133.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 139.
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913.*

THE Austrian Ambassador told me to-day that Count Berchtold was considering the suggestions that I had made about the Commission de Controle for Albania, but was inclined to revert to the original plan under which Austria and Italy were to draw up the project of organisation, and that they should do so on the spot.

I said that I feared that this would give rise to suspicions of the partition of Albania between Austria and Italy, and I hoped that Count Berchtold would be able to accept the suggestions about Commission de Controle.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[31664] No. 134

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright *

(No. 140.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913*

AT the meeting with Ambassadors to-day the following resolutions were adopted —

"Le Comte Mensdorff et le Marquis Imperali attirent l'attention de la reunion sur la necessite de constituer le plus tôt possible la commission de delimitation de la frontiere nord et nord-est de l'Albanie, afin qu'elle puisse proceder a ces operations pendant la belle saison.

"La reunion pense que ces operations devraient commencer au plus tard le 1er août et exprime l'avis qu'il convient de designer immediatement les officiers qui doivent faire partie de la commission et de les inviter a se reunir a Scutari avant la fin de juillet.

'Sir E. Grey parle de l'organisation administrative de l'Albanie et de la necessite de proceder le plus tôt possible a l'institution de la gendarmerie.

'Le Comte Mensdorff et le Marquis Imperali disent qu'ils ont déja soumis au Principal Secretaire d'État pour les Affaires Etrangeres les vues de leurs Gouvernements relativement a l'organisation administrative, qu'ils ont transmis a Vienne et a Rome les observations de Sir E. Grey et qu'ils attendent des instructions sur ce point. Quant a la gendarmerie ils sont d'avis d'aborder les a present l'examen de la question.

"Sir E. Grey propose l'avis suivant, qui est adopté a l'unanimite —

"'La délimitation sera faite a propos du Gouvernement albanais par des six Puissances a l'effet d'obtenir la designation d'un officier superieur pour l'organisation et le commandement de la gendarmerie albanaise. Quand cet officier aura été designé, le Gouvernement albanais sera invité a choisir un nombre suffisant d'officiers pour assister dans l'organisation et le commandement de la gendarmerie. L'officier superieur designé sera invité à se rendre en Albanie aussitôt que la Commission de Controle aura été constituée.

"La reunion pense que les traitements de ces officiers pourront être assurés sur les ressources du pays avec la garantie des Puissances.'

'The Austrian Ambassador communicated the following with regard to Mount Athos —

"'Les couvents du Mont-Athos forment une republique autonome, independante et neutre.

"'Il est donc interdit aux bâtiments de guerre des autres Puissances de s'arreter, sauf en cas de force majeure, dans les eaux de la presqu'île.

'Pour exercer la police maritime et sanitaire le long de la côte la communauté pourrait entretenir des bâtiments a l'exclusion de sous-marins, d'un tonnage qui ne dépasse pas 800 tonneaux chacun, armés de canons d'un calibre de 7 cm. au maximum, mais sans installation pour lancer les torpilles ou pour poser des mines. Le nombre des bâtiments de service ne devrait pas excéder deux.

'Tout le territoire qui constitue la presqu'île portant le nom de Mont-Athos est la propriété complète et exclusive des vingt grands monasteres situés sur la Sainte-Montagne.

'Les nouveaux arrivants ne peuvent s'établir sur la presqu'île qu'en prenant chez ces monasteres des parcelles de territoire en ferme. Il est entendu que les communautés religieuses orthodoxes de toutes les Puissances auront le droit d'affermer des terres pour leurs établissements religieux. L'établissement d'éléments nouveaux sur le Mont-Athos est domaine exclusif de l'administration intérieure soumis aux antiques usages locaux.

"'Aucun État orthodoxe ne jouira au Mont-Athos d'une situation privilegiée ou exclusive; il se soumettra au pouvoir canonique avec une religieuse observation des usages de la Sainte-Montagne.'"

I said that we could not undo everything that had been settled about Mount Athos. Between now and the next meeting we could consider what the Austrian Ambassador had put before us.

* Also to Sir F. Bertie (No. 432), Earl Granville (No. 227), Sir R. Rodd (No. 173), and Sir G. Buchanan (No. 247).

At the conclusion of the meeting, I said that the war between the Balkan States was very serious. I had not suggested any joint action by the Powers, because I felt that mere representations would be useless, and I assumed that the Powers were not prepared to take together steps to impose peace by force. But it might be desirable to make it clear at our next meeting that the Powers were in agreement about their attitude towards the Balkan States. From conversations that I had had with individual Ambassadors, I gathered that the general opinion was that the war should be localised and that there should be non-intervention by the Great Powers. It might be desirable to make this clear, and I should be glad if the Ambassadors would consult their Governments about it before the next meeting.

The German Ambassador said at once that this represented the view of his Government.

I added that of course we should be agreed that the Balkan States must not by their war be allowed to upset decisions already come to by the Great Powers about Albania.

The next meeting was fixed for Tuesday, the 15th instant, with an understanding that if the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors were in the meantime prepared to agree to a proposal for the immediate appointment of a Commission de Controle or a Provisional Government for Albania, we should have an earlier meeting to deal with that.

(Confidential.)

Before the *reunion* met, Sir Arthur Nicolson had been told by the French and Russian Ambassadors that they would like a resolution in favour of non-intervention by the Great Powers, and I suggested that I should propose it.

I did not think it right to propose any such resolution without having warned the other Ambassadors of my intention, though I had understood some days ago from the German Ambassador that his Government were in favour of the principle, and I had reason to suppose that the Austrian and Italian Governments differed.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[31838] No. 135.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright

No. 141.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913*

COUNT MENSDORFF communicated the following to me to-day —

Les derniers jours du mois de juin les troupes serbes de Djakova ont envahi le territoire albanais. Les Serbes ont essayé de s'emparer du passage de montagnes appelé Tchafa Mours (Col le Morava), qui est situé 17 kilom. au delà de la frontiere déterminée par la reunion.

'Deux autres colonnes serbes appartenant, a ce qu'il parait, aux troupes serbes occupant le district de Luma ont essayé de s'avancer a Selita, une tribu albanaise voisine de la Mirditie.

'Selita est éloigné 80 kilom. de Prizrend et seulement 45 kilom. de la cote adriatique, c'est donc une position au cœur de l'Albanie du nord, et les troupes serbes n'ont aucune raison pour l'occupation de cette region.

La population du district de Matia, qui était menacée par l'attaque des Serbes contre le passage Tchafa Mours, a résisté aux troupes serbes, et on combattait le 30 juin dans ces parages.

"L'attaque sur Selita a exaspéré la population de la Mirditie, qui est menacée par ce mouvement des troupes serbes.

'On a chargé de Vienne le Ministre d'Autriche-Hongrie à Belgrade d'y faire des réclamations.

"*Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres,*
"*le 7 juillet* 1913."

I said that we had, as he knew made representations to the Servians, under Admiral Burney's warning of possible danger between the Servians and the Turkes.

Count Mensdorff said that the information he now gave me was still more recent, and perhaps we could repeat our representation to the Servians.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[31837] No. 13[illegible].

Sir Edward Grey to Sir G. Buchanan.

(No. 248.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913.*

THE Russian Ambassador gave me to-day the two following communications.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

Enclosure 1 in No. 13[illegible].

Aide-mémoire communicated to M. Sazonof by Austro-Hungarian Ambassador at St. Petersburgh.

LE Comte Thurn a fait part au Comte Berchtold de la conversation qu'il a eue dernièrement avec M. Sazonof au sujet de la garantie de la liberté des cultes et de l'enseignement pour les minorités dans les pays ci-devant turcs conquis par les États balkaniques.

Le Comte Berchtold partage la manière de voir de M. Sazonof en tant qu'il est aussi d'avis que la protection à garantir aux minorités en question ne devra pas être assurée par un protectorat étranger, et que toute ingérence d'une Puissance étrangère portant atteinte à la souveraineté des États balkaniques devra être évitée.

Le Ministère Impérial et Royal des Affaires Étrangères a au contraire en vue, tout comme son Excellence M. Sazonof l'a fait entendre au Comte Thurn, qu'une stipulation contenant pour la Serbie et le Monténégro l'obligation de la protection des minorités au point de vue des cultes et de l'enseignement devrait être insérée dans le traité de paix définitif, le droit [illegible] dans le cas où cette obligation ne serait pas observée par l'un ou l'autre des États en question, à toutes les Puissances ayant pris part au traité de paix ou à la réunion de Londres, à faire les représentations [illegible] au sujet auprès des Gouvernements qui auraient manqué à leurs obligations.

Le Comte Thurn se flatte de l'espoir que cette manière de voir du Cabinet de Vienne correspond entièrement aux [illegible] développées par son Excellence M. Sazonof à l'occasion de la dernière conversation.

Le texte de la déclaration proposée en dernier lieu en cette matière à la réunion de Londres ne répondant pas entièrement au point de vue exposé plus haut (partagé selon toute apparence tant par son Excellence M. Sazonof que par le Comte Berchtold) en tant qu'il ne garantirait pas d'une manière effective la protection réelle des cultes et de l'enseignement des minorités en question, le Comte Mensdorff a été chargé de proposer à la réunion des Ambassadeurs à Londres une autre formule plus précise et par là répondant mieux, selon l'avis du Comte Berchtold, au but envisagé.

Le texte de cette formule est le suivant: [illegible]

Le Comte Thurn serait très reconnaissant à son Excellence M. Sazonof s'il voulait bien lui faire savoir s'il approuve cette formule ou si celle-ci lui semble donner lieu à quelques observations.

Saint-Pétersbourg, le 15 (28) juin, 1913.

Enclosure 2 in No. 13[illegible].

Aide-mémoire communicated to Austro-Hungarian Ambassador at St. Petersburgh by M. Sazonof.

LE Ministère Impérial des Affaires Étrangères n'a pas manqué de soumettre à l'examen le plus attentif l'aide-mémoire que l'Ambassade Impériale et Royale a bien voulu lui faire parvenir en date du 15 (28) juin année courante.

Le Ministère Impérial se plaît tout d'abord à constater une parfaite solidarité de vues avec le Cabinet de Vienne quant à la question "que toute ingérence d'une Puissance étrangère portant atteinte à la souveraineté des États balkaniques devra être évitée." Une fois que les deux Gouvernements les plus intéressés au maintien de la paix aux Balkans conviennent chacun de son côté de l'absolue nécessité de proclamer ce principe, le Gouvernement Impérial ne saurait ne pas voir dans cette identité de vues la garantie la plus solide de ce que les événements dans les Balkans ne pourront mettre en danger la paix de l'Europe.

En partant de ce principe, le Ministère Impérial croit devoir établir une distinction entre deux catégories de garanties que le Cabinet de Vienne voudrait obtenir des Gouvernements de Serbie et du Monténégro:—

1. La formule proposée à la séance de la réunion du 9 (22) mars avait en vue de déclarer auxdits Gouvernements "qu'il est indispensable de prendre d'urgence des mesures pour assurer une protection effective des populations catholique, musulmane et albanaise dans les territoires cédés au Monténégro et à la Serbie." Il s'agit donc des mesures d'ordre administratif et découlant de l'état de choses créé par la guerre. Le Gouvernement Impérial est prêt à accepter cette formule et sa notification à Belgrade et Cettigné si accompagnée [illegible] proposée à la réunion et qui, tout en spécifiant les intérêts réclamant la protection des Gouvernements serbe et monténégrin, établirait le principe de non-ingérence des autres Puissances, au sujet duquel l'Autriche-Hongrie paraît être en parfait accord avec la Russie.

2. Dans son aide-mémoire du 15 (28) juin il est question, en outre, des garanties durables qui seraient insérées dans le traité de paix définitif.

En désirant aller dans cette question au-devant du désir du Gouvernement Impérial et Royal pour faciliter la tâche d'une entente entre les Puissances, le Ministère Impérial ne soulèverait pas d'objections de sa part pour introduire dans le futur traité de paix certaines garanties qui auraient le caractère d'obligations pour les Gouvernements balkaniques.

Il s'inspire en cela de l'esprit et de la lettre du Traité de Berlin, contenant certains articles pour garantir la liberté de culte et certains droits individuels des citoyens sans distinction de race et de religion.

Le Ministère Impérial croit devoir établir sa conviction profonde qui devrait du reste être partagée par le Cabinet de Vienne, qu'on ne saurait imposer aux Gouvernements balkaniques des obligations plus étendues que celles qui ont été reconnues suffisantes par les Puissances lors du Traité de Berlin. L'expérience des trente-cinq années qui se sont écoulées est là pour attester que les Gouvernements balkaniques n'ont pas donné de motif suffisant pour élargir la portée de ces garanties et imposer de nouvelles obligations aux Gouvernements balkaniques.

Le Gouvernement Impérial ne verrait pas d'inconvénient à insérer pour cela dans le futur traité de paix [illegible] garanties prévues par les articles 27, [illegible] des deux premiers alinéas 35 et 3[illegible] (premier alinéa) du Traité de Berlin restent en vigueur. Il pourrait être stipulé que le Gouvernement de Serbie et Monténégro accorderait protection à ses citoyens sans distinction de race et de religion sur la base des garanties prévues par les articles (susmentionnés) du Traité de Berlin qui reste en vigueur.

Tel est le point de vue du Ministère Impérial. Pour les raisons ci-dessus développées, il croit que le texte de la formule en huit points exposé dans l'annexe de l'Ambassade Impériale et Royale demanderait tout d'abord une discussion qui risquerait de se prolonger indéfiniment. En outre, certains de ces points seraient susceptibles de créer des obligations incompatibles avec les droits souverains des États en question. Les libertés qui sont projetées en faveur des Albanais dépassent en certains points celles qui sont admises pour les minorités dans les pays les plus civilisés et par rapport aux groupes [illegible] État d'une culture bien supérieure à celle des Albanais. D'autre part, les droits de pâturage, &c., en Serbie et au Monténégro stipulés pour les Albanais n'habitant pas ces pays auraient créé de vraies servitudes au détriment de la Serbie et du Monténégro.

Pour toutes ces raisons le Ministère Impérial croit qu'il serait préférable de s'en tenir aux garanties générales ci-dessus exposées.

Il semblerait que de cette manière on pourrait concilier les deux points émis par l'Ambassade Impériale et Royale dans sa notice, à savoir, la non-ingérence des Puissances étrangères et en même temps le droit des Puissances signataires du futur traité de faire des représentations diplomatiques dans le cas d'infraction d'un article quelconque de ce traité ayant reçu la sanction de leurs signatures.

Le Ministère Impérial se plaît à espérer que le Cabinet de Vienne voudra bien reconnaître le caractère amical et conciliant qu'il a mis dans l'examen de cette question, ainsi que son désir sincère d'une entente aussi prompte que possible entre les Puissances.

Saint-Pétersbourg, le 19 juin 1913.

[30732] No. 137

Sir Edward Grey to Sir P. Harvey.

(No. 5.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 21 of the 3rd instant relative to the supplementary claims of compensation put in by the Greek delegation to the Balkan Financial Commission.

As regards the claim for 504,600*l.* on account of losses occasioned to certain Greek vessels by the Turkish cruiser "Hamidie," which figures on p. 9 of the document enclosed in your despatch, which as you have pointed out privately, raises a question of principle with respect to the right of belligerents to damage enemy private property at sea, and as to which you have asked for an indication of His Majesty's Government, I have to make the following observations:—

I do not at present know what the losses inflicted by the "Hamidie" consisted.

If they consisted in the fact that the Greek vessels and the goods on board were placed under arrest, confirmed by a prize court, you should not support the claim for the reasons given. Assuming that, as I presume was the case, these vessels did not come within the protection either of the Convention of The Hague Peace Conference of 1907, relating to the status of enemy merchant ships at the outbreak of hostilities, or of chapter 2 (the exemption from capture of certain vessels) of the convention of the same conference relating to certain restrictions with regard to the exercise of the right of capture in naval war, His Majesty's Government maintain as strongly as ever the general rule that private enemy vessels and private enemy goods on board them may be seized and appropriated.

If the losses consisted in damage inflicted in the course of attack by the "Hamidie" after the vessels or cargoes had refused to submit to visit after having been duly signalled to do so, the claim is unsustainable, and you should not support but oppose it.

If the "Hamidie" on the other hand attacked, without such refusal having first taken place, the claim, at any rate so far as properly supported by satisfactory evidence would be justifiable, and should be supported.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[29408] No. 138

Foreign Office to British-American Tobacco Company.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 7, 1913.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, asking whether your company should furnish to this office particulars of your interest in the Export Leaf Tobacco Company for the use of the British delegates on the Balkan Financial Commission in Paris.

I am to inform you in reply that unless your company hold any concession from or contract with the Ottoman Government involving obligations on the part of the latter, which obligations the company claim that the annexing State shall take over there is no necessity for the company to furnish the particulars in question.

I am, however, to add that it is possible that, in connection with the question of the Société de la Régie des Tabacs, which will certainly be discussed by the commission, an opportunity may occur of taking some step in furtherance of the British interests involved in the tobacco industry, a statement of your company's *desiderata* might prove useful, and that Sir E. Grey would be glad to receive such a statement if you care to forward it.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[31278] No. 139

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 8.)

(No. 38.)

Sir, *Cettinje, July 1, 1913.*

WITH reference to my telegram of to-day's date I have the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of a despatch, dated the 21st June, received from Vice-Admiral Sir Cecil Burney on the subject of the occupation of San Giovanni di Medua by the Montenegrins. In consultation with his Flag Commander Commander Henley, I drew up a *note verbale*, of which I have the honour to enclose a copy, requesting the Montenegrin Government to hand over to the Governor of Alessio the custom-house and post office and to withdraw their troops, at present numbering 150 men, leaving only a force of ten to fifteen men which would be sufficient to guard the depôt of stores. These stores had, it was understood, been sold to a Trieste merchant, who should be warned at the risk of their confiscation and eventual destruction to remove them during the first fortnight in July. I stated in my note that the Montenegrin troops amounted to 150 since Commander Henley informed me that he had just seen to Medua by order of the Vice-Admiral and that that was the number which had been stated to him by the Montenegrin General Staff. On Thursday the 26th June I would remark here that in my telegram No. 101 of the 23rd June I had previously reported to you the assurances received from M. Plamenatz, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that there were only sixty men there guarding the stores.

In the course of two interviews M. Plamenatz explained to me that, according to the terms of the contract made with him on the 22nd June M. Trenca, of Trieste, who had bought the stores, had six weeks for the removal of three weeks from that date, i.e., to the 14th July before which he would be obliged to proceed to the checking of the stores and the taking of delivery. These formalities would occupy a little time, as some of the stores had deteriorated owing to exposure to the weather, while others, as Commander Henley pointed out, had already been destroyed owing to the proximity of the Turkish camp for typhoid fever cases, but everything required would then easily be done, and the guard removed in the second fortnight of July. These proposals did not seem to me in the circumstances to be unreasonable on condition of the retention of the Montenegrin forces to the number strictly necessary to guard the stores. We agreed to fix the number required at twenty.

M. Plamenatz proceeded to say that the Montenegrin authorities should keep control of the custom-house and post-office until the stores had been removed and the guard withdrawn. It seemed to me inadvisable to refuse to entertain this proposal. M. Plamenatz then raised objection on the ground that conflicts were to be feared between the Albanians and the Montenegrins. It was ultimately agreed that the custom-house and post-office should be handed over forthwith to the Governor of Alessio as proposed, but to the international authorities, or otherwise control they were to remain as long as the Montenegrin guard remained at Medua.

At the Vice-Admiral's desire I had expressed the opinion of the international commission that the receipts of the customs and post-office from the 14th May must should be paid over to the Governor of Alessio. According to the information obtained by Commander Henley the receipts of the customs had so far amounted to about 40*l.* It appeared to me that a counter claim for expenses of collection might easily cover this claim, and that it would be better not to press the matter, but to use the point in support of the contention that these administrations should be handed over at once.

M. Plamenatz subsequently addressed to me the *note verbale* dated the 29th June received after the interview of the 30th of which I have the honour to enclose a copy. Commander Henley left early this morning for Scutari to submit the correspondence to the Vice-Admiral.

As regards the number of troops at Medua, M. Plamenatz told me that he had been assured by the War Department that the figures were as originally given to me and communicated to you. He thought that the commandant at Medua had mentioned a higher figure to Commander Henley in order to increase the importance of his command in the eyes of the Albanians.

I have, &c.
J. DE SALIS.

Enclosure 1 in No. 138

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Count de Salis

Sir, *Scutari, June 27, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have received the following telegram from London on the 24th instant

The Austrian Government complain that the Montenegrin detachment of thirty men who are at San Giovanni di Medua to evacuate stores left by Servia has been recently increased to 130 men, and that Montenegro still occupies the customs at the above port and declines to hand over to the chiefs of the Albanian district of Alessio. Please report on above. If Montenegro still occupies the customs at Medua, they should be retired. The Austrian Government desire the evacuation of stores from Medua to be hastened and completed as soon as possible.

2. In order to verify these statements, I sent my flag Commander to Medua yesterday and I am now sending a second officer to-day in order that you may obtain a more complete statement. I would be glad if the Montenegrin Government could be requested to immediately send orders that their representative at Medua to hand over the customs-house at the post office to the Government of Alessio, and also to reduce the troops at Medua to a mere guard over the stores awaiting there. It is understood that these stores have been sold to a merchant at Trieste and I therefore beg to request that the Montenegrin Government may be asked to inform this merchant that if these stores are not removed at once they will be confiscated and destroyed.

3. I think it very desirable that all Montenegrin troops should be withdrawn from Medua as soon as possible to-day.

4. I have directed my flag Commander to remain at Dulcigno for convenience in order that I may be able to receive your replies to these proposals and the necessary report may be sent to London by telegraph.

5. I understand that the Montenegrins themselves now at Medua are only too anxious to leave the place.

I have, &c.
CECIL BURNEY

S. I think that the money received by Montenegro for customs dues at Medua should be arranged for between Austria and Scutari, or any portion of it should be handed over to the Governor of Alessio.

C. B.

Enclosure 2 in No. 138

Note verbale communicated to Montenegrin Government

Sur la communication du Vice-Amiral Sir Cecil Burney, le Légation de Sa Majesté britannique a prié le Gouvernement Royal du Monténégro de donner à l'Amiral Représentant à San Giovanni di Medua des ordres pour la remise au Gouverneur d'Alessio de la douane et du bureau de poste de Medua, et de retirer de cette localité les troupes monténégrines, sauf un détachement de garde, qui devra rester jusqu'à l'évacuation complète des dépôts.

Ces dispositions seront bientôt prises par le relais de navires qui doit être envoyé à Dulcigno dans la journée du 30 juin, qui devra rester jusqu'au 5 juillet pour permettre au Gouvernement Monténégrin de recevoir les ordres qu'il sollicite.

Le Capitaine Hall vient d'arriver à Scutari. Attendez l'arrivée de la réponse du Gouvernement Royal à cette lettre avant de prendre une décision définitive au sujet de la remise de la douane et du bureau de poste de Medua.

La Commission internationale est d'avis que la recette de la douane à partir de la date de l'arrivée de la Force internationale à Scutari serait à remettre au Gouverneur d'Alessio.

Légation de Sa Majesté britannique,
Cettigne, le 28 juin 1913.

Enclosure 3 in No. 139.

Note verbale by Montenegrin Government

EN réponse à la note verbale de la Légation de Sa Majesté britannique en date du 28 juin, année courante, le Ministère Royal des Affaires Etrangères a l'honneur de l'informer que le 9 (22) juin le Gouvernement Royal a vendu toutes les provisions qui se trouvent dans les dépots du port de Medova à M. Michel Treuden, commerçant de Trieste.

Le Gouvernement Royal s'est engagé envers l'acheteur de pourvoir à la garde des dites provisions jusqu'au 14 juillet prochain et a laissé à Medova dans ce but une demie compagnie de quarante-six hommes exactement qui sera reduite à vingt hommes seulement.

Dans la deuxième quinzaine le projet-chargé d'affaires aura terminé pour remettre certainement toutes ces provisions à M. Treuden et retirer les vingt soldats de Medova, puisqu'à ce moment il n'y aura aucune nécessité pour le Monténégro d'occuper cette place.

Comme la cession immédiate de la douane et du bureau de poste de Medova au Gouverneur d'Alessio présenterait de grandes difficultés et aucun des dirigeants, vu l'état d'esprit et de culture des Albanais, le Gouvernement Royal ne peut pas le faire, mais il est prêt de faire passer à la Commission internationale celle-ci qui se chargerait de l'administration de la douane et de la poste jusqu'à l'évacuation complète par le Monténégro du port de Medova.

Quant aux recettes de la douane et du bureau de poste le Gouvernement Royal ne peut pas les remettre à la Commission internationale ni au Gouverneur d'Alessio, vu qu'elles ont été saisies par les autorités qui les ont versées au Trésor et qui en paieront des fonctionnaires de la douane et de la poste et l'entretien des locaux de ces deux dernières.

Cettigne, le 16 (29) juin, 1913.

[31279] No. 140.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 8.

(No. 59.)

Sir, *Cettigne, July 1, 1913.*

IN my despatch No. 56 of the 27th June I reported to you some of the claims raised by the Montenegrin authorities to property alleged to have belonged to the Turkish Administration at Scutari. Vice-Admiral Sir Cecil Burney has now forwarded to me the enclosed letter, in which the Montenegrin Commandant Captain Radovich raises claims to the Ottoman stamped paper, petitions, contracts &c., as well as to the money received up to date for the sale of Scutari of these stamps.

I pointed out to M. Plamenatz, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, that, as far as I was aware these stamps were issued by the Ottoman Debt Commission, and that the right of the Montenegrin authorities to them was probably in that case contested. It seemed to me, however, that in the present instance Captain Radovich was not limiting himself to the period of occupation, but was asking for assurances for the revenues of the country after the evacuation had taken place. Such claims could surely not be entertained for a moment.

After consideration, M. Plamenatz replied that the letter had been written without his knowledge or approval. He asked me to beg the Vice-Admiral that it should not be considered to require an answer.

I have, &c.
DE SALIS

Enclosure in No. 140.

Captain Radovitch to Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney.

Excellence *Scutari, le 25 juin, 1913*

LES timbres poste ci-inclus aujourd'hui pour les requêtes et les contrats et qui se vendent par la direction de la douane le sel et ses succursales chez MM. Tzaf Kotchi, à Parontza Adji Nassouf Tepeli, et Omer Adji Alouena, au bazar, sont des timbres ottomans et, par conséquent appartiennent au Gouvernement monténégrin. Je vous serai donc prier bien vouloir bien Excellence d'avoir l'extrême bonté de me faire faire remettre ces timbres aussi, ou l'argent pour ceux déjà reçu par la vente.

Veuillez, &c.

A. RADOVITCH, *Capitaine de Genie.*

[31268 No. 11

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 8.)

(No. 148.)

Sir *Athens, July 2, 1913.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 141 of the 12th May, I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of notes which I have received from the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the operations of Engineer Captain Watson's remaining on board the new British Naval Mission.

I also enclose a copy of a letter which Captain Watson has addressed to me accepting the offer of the Greek Government, and which I am communicating to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I have, &c.

F. ELLIOT.

Enclosure 1 in No. 141.

M. Coromilas to Sir F. Elliot.

M. le Ministre *Athènes, le 11 (24) juin, 1913.*

POUR répondre à votre lettre particulière que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser le 24 mai 1913 au sujet du Capitaine Watson, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Ministère Royal de la Marine accepte les conditions auxquelles le Capitaine Watson consentirait à rester au service du Gouvernement hellénique, à savoir: (1) que ses appointements actuels ne seraient pas diminués et (2) qu'on lui verserait les 4,000 drachmes prévues par le texte 12 de la convention.

En portant ce qui précède à votre connaissance, je vous prie, &c.

L. A. COROMILAS.

Enclosure 2 in No. 141.

M. Coromilas to Sir F. Elliot.

M. le Ministre *Athènes, le 18 juin (1er juillet), 1913.*

POUR faire suite à ma lettre en date du 10 (23) juin 1913, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Ministère de la Marine a accepté toutes les conditions que le Capitaine Watson avait formulées, à savoir, outre celles contenues dans sa lettre du 10 (23), qu'il aura le titre d'Ingénieur conseiller ou Ingénieur inspecteur ("Consulting Engineer or Engineering Adviser") du Ministère de la Marine avec droits d'administration effectifs dans son service et que, en vertu de ce titre, il aura le pas sur le chef de division les ingénieurs du Ministère de la Marine. Et, en plus, que le personnel sous ses ordres sera augmenté; le Ministère de la Marine à la suite d'une requête du Capitaine Watson, avait déjà agréé cette demande.

Veuillez, &c.

L. A. COROMILAS.

Enclosure 2 in No. 141.

Captain Watson to Sir F. Elliot.

Sir *Athens, July 2, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Hellenic Government having communicated to you their acceptance of the terms put forward by me through you, under which I was willing to renew my contract with them for a further term of two years' service with the British Naval Mission in Greece, I have, with pleasure, conformably to article 5 of the first contract in accepting the offer which the Hellenic Government have done me the honour of making to me, as stated in their communication to you, dated the 27th April 1913, and I beg you will be so good as to communicate my decision to them and also to the home authorities.

I have, &c.

JAS. H. WATSON.

[31425] No. 12

Sir R. Crawford and Sir W. Tyrrell to Sir E. Grey.—(Received July 8.)

(Confidential.) *Hôtel Palais d'Orsay, Paris,*

My dear Tyrrell, *July 2, 1913.*

IN continuation of my last letter you may like to tell Sir E. Grey that a cypher telegram from the Sublime Porte received here on Monday states that the Turkish Government have accepted in principle my suggestions as to the reorganisation of the Commission des Réformes (Finances of the Ministry of Finance). More foreign members are to be added to the Commission, which will be charged with the preparation of the annual Budget and with the supervision of the application of the laws and regulations relating to finance. The Minister of Finance has been instructed to draft proposals to give effect to these decisions of the Cabinet.

This is satisfactory so far as it goes. With careful handling the Commission with these additional powers should gradually exercise sufficient influence to secure more or less effective control over expenditure.

The Sublime Porte also writes that the Cabinet is decided *en principe* to further my suggestions as to the immediate appointment of a small commission to draw up a programme of reforms for the vilayets of Asia Minor. Instead, however, of proceeding on the lines of the Janina scheme, the Government's proposal is to create five Asiatic provinces or vilayets to be each of which foreign inspectors-general are to be appointed with subordinate foreign experts to assist them in reorganising the local administrations of justice, public works and agriculture. At the same time a foreign chief inspector-general is to be appointed to the Ministry of the Interior.

It is important that a programme should be drawn up of the reforms for which it is proposed to utilise the services of these foreign advisers and experts, and that the powers of the latter should be clearly defined. I have indicated to the Turkish Government some of the principal administrative and economic reforms which should be undertaken, and, if the British Government is approached with regard to the nomination of expert advisers for the Ministry of the Interior and for local administrative work, it would be advisable, I think, to press for a definite written statement as to the general character of the reforms contemplated and as to the functions of the foreign experts in connection therewith.

I have impressed upon the Turkish Government that the Powers are not prepared to authorise further financial assistance unless serious measures of reform are undertaken in Asia Minor. A clear understanding on this point should be required as a security, material as well as moral, for the integrity of the guarantees of future loans.

Yours very sincerely,

R. A. CRAWFORD.

[31356] No. 143

M. Misu to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 8.)

Legation de Roumanie, Londres,
le 20 juin (5 juillet), 1913.

M. le Secrétaire d'Etat,

PAR suite de votre note du 23 mai (5 juin) dernier, dont j'ai eu l'honneur, sur sa demande, de remettre copie à votre Excellence, le Gouvernement Royal roumain avait fait connaître aux Grandes Puissances que, si la guerre éclatait entre les alliés balkaniques, la Roumanie se verrait obligée de sortir de la réserve gardée jusqu'à ce moment.

Comme on sait, la Bulgarie se trouve effectivement en état de guerre avec la Grèce et la Serbie, Sa Majesté le Roi Charles de Roumanie a ordonné la mobilisation de l'armée roumaine.

En portant ce qui précède à votre connaissance, j'ai, &c.

N. MISU.

Minute.

Sir Edward Grey

M. Misu called me the above to say. I said that I presumed mobilization did not necessarily mean participation in hostilities. He said that it certainly did not. He added that the measure was one to safeguard Roumania's interests, which were that a equilibrium should be maintained in the Balkans. Roumania did not wish to see the powerful Bulgaria, which Austria and Hungary would be glad of, Servia were so much crushed. He asked if I had any remarks to make. I said none, except that it was our earnest desire that hostilities, if they were to continue, should be strictly localized.

A. N.

Foreign Office, July 7, 1913.

E. G.

[31405] No. 144

M. Daneff to Sir G. Tyrrell.—(Received July 8.)

Dear Sir William,

Bulgarian Legation, London, July 7, 1913.

IN accordance with the suggestion which you made this afternoon, I beg to forward herewith enclosed two *aide-mémoire*.

I have just received a telegram from Dr. Daneff to the effect that Osman Nizami Pasha, the former Turkish peace delegate and now Minister of Public Works, has written to him suggesting that it would be in the interest both of Bulgaria and Turkey if the two countries took immediately in hand the settlement of the various pending questions. He proposes that Bulgaria should send to Constantinople for that purpose a person among the Ex-Ministers of the Government. Dr. Daneff has answered that he is in full agreement with the proposal and that the choice of the Bulgarian Government has fallen on M. Natchovitch, who is leaving to-morrow for Constantinople.

I should be very grateful if you will kindly bring the above to the knowledge of Sir Edward Grey.

Believe me, &c.
C. C. MINCOFF.

Enclosure in No. 144.

Aides-mémoire communicated by Bulgarian Legation.

(1.)

HIS efforts continue to be made to hold Bulgaria responsible for concerning the recent fighting in Macedonia the Bulgarian Government deem it indispensable to lay stress on the following facts:—

1. Hostilities began at the very moment when the Bulgarian Government was addressing to Russia its *mémoire* on the subject of her arbitration in the dispute between Servia and Bulgaria, and the Bulgarian Prime Minister was on the point of leaving for St. Petersburg.

2. On receiving the first reports of the fighting the Bulgarian Government immediately issued to the Bulgarian armies strict orders to desist from attacking. At the same time it urgently pressed a similar course of action on the Governments of Belgrade and Athens. Furthermore, it appealed on the 1st July to Russia to use her influence in the same direction.

3. None of the severest fighting occurred in places where the Bulgarian troops were in such a manifest numerical inferiority that it would have been perfectly impossible to precipitate an offensive movement.

4. So convinced was the Bulgarian Government of having allowed no pretext for aggression that the very last instruction left at Salonica, which contained a serious error of fact, was to be recalled.

5. All the fighting was the main forces of the Bulgarian army, which were taking part in the fighting. This is especially true of the Kustendil Army, which was in the most proximity of the main theatre of fighting, and could have easily been despatched to that quarter. The Bulgarian Government, however, abstained from issuing orders to that effect, as its desire being to localize the war it thought precipitate war.

6. The Bulgarian headquarters duly informed foreign military attachés having received orders for a surprise attack on the Servian and Greek armies, and no Bulgarian officer would have initiated a movement of that kind without such orders. The documents conveying such orders, alleged to have been found among the papers of a Bulgarian regiment, must therefore, be considered apocryphal.

7. Now, as from the very beginning of the crisis, the Bulgarian Government takes its stand on the existing treaties, and, notwithstanding recent complications, continues to favour the peaceful termination of the conflict.

Bulgarian Legation, London, July 7, 1913.

(2.)

The Bulgarian Government learns that at the sitting of the 3rd July the Ottoman Government discussed the question of eventual intervention of Turkey in the present Balkan crisis. The military party strongly urged the advisability of such a course of action. It is expected that the Government will decide in favour of or against war in the next few days.

In connection with this the Bulgarian Government has instructed its representatives abroad to remind the Great Powers that, as regards the security signed Treaty of Peace, they stand in the position of moral guarantors. The conditions of peace would have been quite different and infinitely more harsh for Turkey had it not been for their intervention on her behalf. Those points on which no immediate agreement was reached have been referred to special commissions consisting of representatives of the former belligerents and the Great Powers.

In these circumstances the Bulgarian Government is convinced that the Great Powers who came to Turkey's assistance at a time when she lay helpless will not now fail to exert their influence in Constantinople in favour of the observance by Turkey of a settlement for which they are morally responsible.

Since the conclusion of peace, Bulgaria has done nothing which could justify an unfriendly attitude on the part of Turkey. On the contrary, her moderation during the peace negotiations and her anxiety to restore normal diplomatic relations at the earliest possible moment are convincing proofs that she has no better wish than to cultivate a policy of friendship towards the Ottoman Empire.

Bulgarian Legation, London, July 7, 1913.

[31349] No. 145.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—Received July 8.

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 7, 1913.*

I AM commanded by their Lordships Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram, dated 6th instant, from the Vice-Admiral Second in Command, Mediterranean, at Scutari, relative to affairs in Albania.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 145.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

Telegraphic. *July 6, 1913.*

REPORT received this morning strong hostilities have commenced between Servians and Malissori. I have informed Albanian chiefs that if Servians continue to advance into Albania they should not be resisted and I have instructed chiefs to go out and stop them. I also told them that if Servians would withdraw we would not give battle.

Request Servian Government may be urged to withdraw troops from Albania. It will be impossible to prevent chiefs from resisting if troops do not retire soon.

31353 No. 146.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 8.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 7, 1913.*

I AM commanded by their Lordships Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram dated the 7th instant, from the Admiralty relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 146.

Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, July 7, 1913.*

REFERENCE to Admiralty telegram No. 10 and your Nos. 19 and 16.

Servian Government reply they had already issued orders to troops to withdraw from towns in Albania, and they are repeating these orders now.

[31281] No. 147.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 8.)

(No. 323.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 7, 1913.*

BALKAN war.

My telegram No. 321 of 7th July.

Grand Vizier assures me that Turkey has no intention of attacking Bulgaria. On the contrary, he had intimated to Bulgarian Government his desire to renew normal relations, and had invited them to send diplomatic representative here, only condition being that Bulgaria should evacuate Turkish territory up to new frontier line. Military preparations being made were only intended as a hint that pressure could be used, and newspaper articles ascribing more aggressive intentions to Turkey were without foundation.

French Minister has received a similar explanation from Turkish Bey and from military commandant at Constantinople, who is also very influential member of Committee.

Grand Vizier added that I might assure you confidentially that even if the fortune of war went against Bulgaria Turkey would not take advantage of it.

[31368] No. 148.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 8.)

(No. 138.)
Telegraphic. *Athens, July 8, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from military attaché for Director of Military Operations:

"Military attachés have been refused permission to proceed to the front.

[31453] No. 149.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 8.

(No. 119.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 8, 1913.*

AFTER two days' fighting three Greek divisions of Central Epirus army corps have driven back Bulgarian forces from position of Seghitsa to south of Doiran Lake. Twelve guns captured. Pursuit continues towards Strumnitza. Greek division, grouped under cypher of Rupel force, crossed enemy across Struma Orleak [? Bridge] being destroyed by latter.

[31451] No. 150.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 8.)

(No. 90. Confidential.)
Telegraphic. *Bucharest, July 8, 1913.*

I GATHER from conversation with my Austrian colleague that he has not acted on instructions contained in my telegram No. 88 of 7th July, as he fears to elicit a too uncompromising pronouncement, but he thinks that Roumania would do not now content herself merely with territorial gains, but would also require some guarantee from Bulgaria that, in the case of latter's victory, Servia would not be too harshly dealt with.

(Sent to Vienna, Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[31448] No. 151

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 8.)

(No. 91.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 8, 1913.*

FOREIGN military attaches will be allowed to follow eventual operations with the General Staff, which is expected to leave Bucharest in ten days.

Sent to Sophia.)

[31455] No. 152.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 8.)

No. 250.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 8, 1913.*

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs told me yesterday that while Bulgarian Government are clamouring for Russian intervention they continue to talk of arbitration on basis of treaty, which they have at the request of Emperor and Imperial Government as responsible for present situation. His Excellency has declined to intervene and has warned them that if they are not careful Russia will wash her hands of them altogether. He seems to be bent on checking Roumania from Austria's threat to move all forces as to extract Bulgarian territory which Roumania may eventually occupy. He told me with much satisfaction that German Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs had not only refused to support efforts made by Austrian Government to bring about understanding between Roumania and Bulgaria, but had even severely criticised recent threat of Austrian Government. It seems to be hoped that understanding between Germany and Austria is as close as it was.

Roumanian Chargé d'Affaires made to me by Turkish Ambassador to-day leaves that Turkey must remain in occupation by Bulgarians of territory to be restored to her under new treaty of peace. He warned Ambassador that Ottoman Government must be careful, and he received assurance that they did not contemplate any action beyond carrying out execution of treaty.

[31456] No. 153.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 8.)

No. 243.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 8, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from military attaché for Director of Military Operations:—

"No official information can be obtained to-day. I hear unofficially that the Bulgarian cavalry has been badly defeated near Kotchana on the 4th instant. Some troops are said to be retiring on Strumitza, but are probably repulsing others who have gone south. Apparently there is a general reserve of a force of Bulgarians and Greeks is concentrated. There is great excitement in Sophia."

Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.

[31457] No. 154.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 8.)

No. 244.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 8, 1913.*

OWING to interference with telegraphic communication reported in my telegram No. 239 of 8th July, postal and telegraphic services are very slow.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[31444] No. 155.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 8.)

No. 102.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 8, 1913.*

AUSTRIAN Minister for Foreign Affairs said to me yesterday evening that the attitude of Roumania was causing him much worry, as it had been impossible for him to obtain clear statement from the Roumanian Government as to what were their demands. He was doing all he could to try and arrange matters between Bulgaria and Roumania. Minister for Foreign Affairs told me he had reasons to believe that for the present Bulgaria had no intention of claiming from Servia more than she was entitled to by the treaty.

[31439] No. 156.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 8.)

No. 103.
(Telegraphic.) R. *Vienna, July 8, 1913.*

ALBANIA.

Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs said to me yesterday that, as the meetings of the Ambassadors were soon to close, he did not see any way of arriving at a settlement for Albania unless the drafting of the statute were entrusted to Austria-Hungary and Italy, who could eventually submit it to Powers for their approval.

As regards the southern frontier of Albania Minister for Foreign Affairs seemed pleased with the suggestion, apparently made by you, that frontier should run more or less from Cape Stilos to point west of Koritza, which would leave that town in Albania.

[31458] No. 157.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 8.)

No. 104. (Most Confidential.)
Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 8, 1913.*

AUSTRIAN Minister for Foreign Affairs returned to Servia from visiting Emperor at Ischl. I learn from a trustworthy source that Emperor said to me that he would have no more fighting after Bulgaria had that Count Berchtold was to concentrate his efforts to retain friendship of Roumania for this country.

31361, No. 158.

Consul-General Smith to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 8.)

(No. 14.)
(Telegraphic.) *Odessa, July 8, 1913.*

ROUMANIAN acting consul-general at Odessa received orders 7th July to enrol army reservists, classes 1901 to 1911, and navy reservists 1897 to 1909. Greek consul ordered to send home men born in 1891.

Repeated to St. Petersburgh and Constantinople.

[30388] No. 159.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.**

(No. 262.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 8, 1913.*

ADMIRAL at Scutari asks whether the extra duties on alcohol and the revenue from sale of salt and license of fishery rights should still be paid to Ottoman Debt Commissioners there. He also asks whether if extra duties on alcohol should still be paid to Commissioners surtax imposed during war should be continued.

We have no information as to extra duty on alcohol and are asking Admiralty to enquire of admirals as to its amount and date of its imposition.

Surtax referred to is presumably 10% per cent duty imposed by Turkey on goods from Balkan States. Shall imposed it as Sovereign of Scutari and, strictly speaking question of its continuance or cessation should be decided by present Sovereign.

Position of Scutari is however anomalous and unprovided for by any well recognised rules of international law.

We therefore propose to settle question solely on principles of convenience and to leave admiral as best judge of requirements of situation to act as he thinks fit after consulting his foreign colleagues.

Inform Government to which you are accredited, and ask whether they agree. An early reply is requested.

[32153] No. 160.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.†

(No. 263.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 8, 1913.*

TURKISH Ambassador has requested, by order of his Government, that the Powers should move the Bulgarian Government to evacuate those districts which by treaty are to be retroceded to Turkey, so as to enable the Turkish refugees to return to their homes, and thereby relieve the Turkish Government of the heavy burden of maintaining them. Pending the demarcation of the Enos-Midia frontier Turkish Government propose that a neutral zone should be established. Turkey wishes to cede Adrianople but these matters, at any rate, must first be arranged.

I told Tewfik Pasha that I would have to consult the other Powers first but that I would inform the other Governments that I considered the Turkish request reasonable, and one to which we could give effect. Ascertain views of Minister for Foreign Affairs.

[31439] No. 161.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 205.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 8, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 193 of 8th July.

The Austrian Ambassador suggested to me yesterday that we should revert to the plan of Austria and Italy drawing up an organisation for Albania, and that they should do it on the spot. For Austria and Italy to send commissioners to Albania to draw up an organisation would excite suspicion that partition was intended. I expressed this apprehension and expressed strong hope that international commission would be proceeded with and administration of Albania thus provided for provisionally.

Statement in last paragraph of your telegram as made to you by Minister for Foreign Affairs does not accurately represent what I have as yet said, but you need not explain.

Fuller explanations of all these points will reach you by despatch.

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* Also to Earl Granville (No. 242), Sir F. Cartwright (No. 203), Sir G. Buchanan (No. 503), and Sir R. Rodd (No. 199).

† Also to Sir G. Buchanan (No. 504), Sir F. Cartwright (No. 204), Sir R. Rodd (No. 200), and Earl Granville (No. 243).

[30528] No. 162.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 311.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 8, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 285 of 25th June. Lights and mines.

Please report by telegraph how matters stand.

You may, if you think it necessary, make a further representation on the subject.

[31976] No. 163.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir C. Spring-Rice.

(No. 394.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 8, 1913.*

THE American Ambassador informed me to-day that to his Government it appeared probable that, at the Financial Commission now in session in Paris, the assent of the six Powers signatory of the Treaty of Berlin would be given to the raising of the Turkish customs dues. When the last increase of these duties took place, it was arranged through the mediation of the British Government that the assent of the Berlin Powers was coupled with the qualification that the arrangement made by these Powers with Turkey must not free the Porte from obtaining the assent of the other Powers. This qualification was incorporated as article 13 of the Protocol signed in Constantinople on the 29th April 1907. The Ambassador was instructed to request me to inform him to give such information as I might be at liberty to furnish for the confidential information of the United States Government of whether cognisance had been taken in the negotiations now in progress against the Berlin Treaty powers with reference to Turkish finances of the right of other powers to be consulted in the matter of Turkish customs increases as incidental to their capitulatory rights. If there had been no such express recognition of the principle of equality of rights as against the nations enjoying the benefits of the capitulations, the Ambassador was instructed to ask me whether the British Government would be willing to maintain that principle by the reinsertion in any such agreement as the six Powers might conclude with Turkey in reference to the increase of customs of the provisions above cited, which had been substituted in existing conventions for the Protocol of 1907.

I said that I would have to consult my colleagues, but I personally saw no objection to Turkey's assenting to the increase of customs dues, Turkey should pay an indemnity to the British Subjects and Shareholders of the Turkish and the British States should take over the consideration of the Turkish territories assigned by them, which was part of the security for the Turkish Debt. It would, of course, be necessary before any question of the increase of customs dues arose to settle the question of capitulatory rights of the Powers. We could not, in any case, consent to any compromise with Turkey which would prejudice the right of any Power to object to an increase of customs dues which the Powers should agree. Any Power must be at liberty to make a proposal to Turkey of this nature, and, of course, after we and the European Powers had come to the decision what our own rights were, we should be ready to negotiate with Turkey and other Powers other than ourselves.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[30727] No. 164.

Foreign Office to Red Cross Society.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 8, 1913.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to inform you that he has received a telegram from the British acting consul-general at Salonica stating that, in consequence of the removal of figures in the illustrated journal of that place, the Greek wounded have arrived there, and that medical scores are help would be welcome.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[31484] No. 165.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 3.*)

(No. 364.)

Sir, *Paris, July 7, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Mr. Carnegie addressed a memorandum to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, as instructed by your despatch No. 399 of the 26th ultimo, on the subject of the suggested consolidation of the outstanding advances to the Porte and the proposal for securing a mortgage on the Topkhane lands.

I transmit to you herewith a note from M. Pichon in reply. His Excellency states that French financiers had already approached him with regard to the suggested consolidation scheme, and he gives the tenor of his answer to them. The project, so his Excellency states, has for the moment been abandoned.

M. Pichon expresses some doubt as to the advisability of favouring the Topkhane mortgage scheme, and he puts forward an alternative one by which the Topkhane lands would be secured from the Turkish Administration by a company, to be formed for that purpose. Should this proposal be acceptable to His Majesty's Government, M. Pichon suggests that it should be supported by the combined action of the French and British Embassies at Constantinople.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure in No. 165.

M. Pichon to Mr. Carnegie.

Monsieur le Ministre, *Paris, le 3 juillet, 1913.*

PAR une dépêche en date du 28 juin, vous avez bien voulu appeler l'attention du Gouvernement de la République sur les négociations qui auraient été entamées par des banquiers français et anglais et qui auraient pour objet la création de titres de l'Etat ottoman à court terme, en vue de rembourser les bons du Trésor échus et renouvelés ou venant à être prochainement échéance. Vous me faisiez connaître que le Gouvernement Impérial estimait qu'il serait opportun d'engager ces négociations, les revenus affectés aux dernières dettes n'étant pas, jusqu'ici, engagés au profit des porteurs de titres antérieurs, et qu'il pourrait être avantageux de substituer à une garantie de ces titres nouveaux une opération d'hypothèque sur certains immeubles situés dans l'arsenal de Topkhane.

Les banquiers français auraient, en effet, entretenu, il y a quelque temps, le Département des Finances pour proposer de consolider les avances consenties par divers gouvernements sous la forme de bons du Trésor. Ils projetaient de profiter de la baisse de nos rentes pour racheter, à un certain taux d'argent frais, puisé dans notre marché, une certaine somme de ces bons. Le Département des Finances s'était abstenu de donner aucune suite à ces propositions, mais il avait fait savoir à ses interlocuteurs qu'il ne saurait être question de procéder à une opération de cette nature tant que les revenus affectés aux différentes dettes ottomanes antérieures ne seraient pas intégralement perçus par la Turquie, par quelle opération l'Etat ne serait plus en mesure de disposer librement des ressources qui lui seraient nécessaires.

Le projet dont vous m'avez entretenu aujourd'hui paraît différer sensiblement de celui qui avait été soumis à mon prédécesseur. Il ne s'agirait plus, en effet, d'une opération de crédit, mais d'une hypothèque à constituer sur certains immeubles de l'Etat ottoman, en vue de garantir le remboursement d'une avance de fonds. Cette hypothèque serait inscrite au profit d'un syndicat de banquiers français et anglais, qui se chargerait de l'émission des titres nouveaux. Ceux-ci seraient remis par le syndicat à la Dette ottomane, qui les échangerait contre les titres anciens. Le syndicat aurait, en outre, à se charger de la vente des immeubles hypothéqués, dont le produit serait versé à la Dette ottomane.

Il me paraît difficile de se prononcer sur une proposition aussi vague, et je ne puis que vous prier de me faire connaître, le plus tôt possible, les garanties qui seraient offertes par le syndicat, ainsi que les conditions de l'opération projetée.

Veuillez, &c.
S. PICHON.

[31485] No. 166.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 9.*)

(No. 365.)

Sir, *Paris, July 7, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of a note from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to a communication which I addressed to him on the 14th ultimo, in accordance with the instructions contained in your despatch No. 364 of the 12th ultimo, respecting the demand of the Greek authorities in Samos for the payment of sums due by the Ottoman Debt Administration to the Government of the principality.

M. Pichon states that the French Government put forward a proposal at London and at St. Petersburgh at the end of May, when the question arose, according to which the sums in dispute should be sequestrated until the situation of Samos should have been considered by the protecting Powers under the 1832 Agreement. The Russian Government has concurred in this proposal.

M. Pichon considers that there would be no objection to the question forming the subject of a deliberation on the part of the Financial Commission in Paris, but that it would be preferable that it should not be submitted to that body before the protecting Powers have settled in concert what is to be done with a view to determining the future régime of Samos.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure in No. 166.

M. Pichon to Mr. Carnegie.

Monsieur le Ministre, *Paris, le 1er juillet 1913.*

VOTRE Ambassade a bien voulu appeler mon département le 14 mai dernier, la question posée par les autorités de Samos au sujet des annuités dues par la Dette ottomane. Ces autorités ont sollicité de l'Administration de la Dette ottomane l'effectuation entre leurs mains du paiement d'une somme de 75,000 piastres, représentant la quote-part de cette Principauté dans l'affermage des salines de l'île. La question fut soumise au Conseil de Surveillance de la Dette, qui estima que la demande devait être portée à la connaissance des Ambassades des trois Puissances protectrices de Constantinople. Le Gouvernement ottoman, de son côté, fut invité à faire connaître au Département des Finances son point de vue sur ce sujet, et l'examen de cette question fut renvoyé à une réunion spéciale de la Commission financière internationale, chargée d'en rechercher la solution de concert avec le Commissaire financier ottoman.

Lorsque cette question fut posée à la dernière séance de la Commission, le délégué ottoman déclara qu'il ne pouvait que se référer aux représentations faites par son Gouvernement auprès des Puissances intéressées. Les sommes provenant de l'affermage des salines de Samos seront donc séquestrées jusqu'au moment où la situation de Samos aura fait l'objet d'un accord entre les Puissances signataires du Protectorat de 1832. La question est, en effet, intimement connexe à la question générale des revenus affectés à la garantie des obligations de la Turquie envers les porteurs de titres antérieurs à la guerre. Il ne serait pas équitable que l'article 7 de la Convention de Londres pût recevoir son application, c'est-à-dire que les occupants du territoire cessent de percevoir les revenus affectés à l'amortissement par le fait même de l'occupation, et que les créanciers de l'Etat ottoman fussent ainsi privés de la garantie spéciale qui leur a été donnée par la Convention de Paris du 8 août 1912.

Le Gouvernement Impérial estime, en conséquence, que la question de Samos ne saurait être envisagée isolément, mais qu'elle doit être considérée dans son ensemble, et il ne doute pas que les Puissances protectrices ne soient d'accord pour ajourner la solution définitive de cette question jusqu'au moment où elles auront arrêté, de concert, le régime futur de l'île.

Je reconnais toutefois, avec la question envisagée par la lettre de Sir Edward Grey du 14 juin, que la gestion de Samos sera définitivement réglée dans le cas d'intervention d'une force internationale. Dans le cas d'intervention d'une force internationale, il est essentiel que la Puissance qui exercera le contrôle financier ait la garantie que les sommes séquestrées ne seront pas employées à des fins autres que celles auxquelles elles sont destinées. Il est, d'autre part, à prévoir que les autorités locales, avant le débarquement des troupes internationales, auront dépensé les sommes séquestrées, et il est à craindre que, dans ces conditions, le contrôle financier ne soit illusoire.

Agréez, &c.
S. PICHON.

Dette publique ottomane pourrait être maintenu et dans quelles conditions C'est là en effet, ainsi que le remarque Sir Francis Bertie un des points qui pourrait relever de la compétence de la Commission financière internationale Je ne verrais pour ma part aucun inconvénient à ce qu'elle fût appelée à délibérer sur ce sujet, mais il conviendrait, semble-t-il, que cette question ne fût portée devant cette commission que lorsque les Puissances protectrices auront arrêté en commun la ligne de conduite à suivre pour déterminer le régime futur de la principauté

Agréez, &c
S PICHON

[31486] No. 167

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 9.*)

(No. 466)

Sir, *Paris, July 8, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, a report which I have received from Mr. Carnegie respecting the views which were put forward by M. de Margerie in the course of the discussion which took place with the Commissioners of the Great Powers on the Balkans

I have, &c
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure No. 167

Mr. Carnegie to Sir Edward Grey.

(No. 2)

Sir, *Paris, July 7, 1913.*

I SAW M. de Margerie this afternoon and asked him what was the result of the Special Commission of the Ambassadors' Conference which was to meet this morning. He replied that he was sorry to say that no definite decision had been arrived at. The Commissioners had, so far from one another, suggested that the Commission should adjourn sine die, but the Russian delegates had expressed the hope that work would proceed as far as possible. The Greek delegates had intimated that they were prepared to continue discussion, but that the interests of their country might be seriously affected by the absence of their delegates. In the circumstances it was decided that the Commissioners should ask the Conference of Ambassadors whether they should continue their sittings or not. M. de Margerie observed that in his own opinion the Commission might with advantage adjourn sine die, but that if the Commissioners should desire to continue their sittings, it would be necessary that they should be given instructions on certain points which they might consider necessary. M. de Margerie observed that there were two good reasons for not adjourning the Commission sine die, as it would be very difficult to get it to reassemble, the other was that the general breaking up of the Commission would create a very bad impression everywhere and would increase the uneasiness caused by the fact which he hoped and expected would be of short duration.

On my asking M. de Margerie what his views were in regard to the programme of the Commission, he said that the work of the three committees would be finished about the 17th instant. The rapporteurs would have to draw up their respective reports, which would be read at a plenary meeting called *sine die* at the end of this month, after which the Commission would adjourn. He did not propose to permit any discussion at the plenary meeting, which was to be purely formal.

The results of the labours of the Commission would be communicated to the Governments interested, they, it appeared, would be exchanging views, succeeded in finding satisfactory solutions of the various questions at issue.

I have, &c.
LANCELOT D. CARNEGIE.

[31499] No. 168.

M. Cambon to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 9.*)

LE gérant du consulat général de France à La Canée vient de faire savoir au Ministère des Affaires Étrangères que M. Ploumidis a été nommé Gouverneur général de la Crète, en remplacement de M. Dragoumis, envoyé à Salonique

Comme le représentant consulaire français à La Canée est actuellement chargé de la gérance du consulat général d'Angleterre, l'Ambassadeur de France a l'honneur de porter l'information qui précède à la connaissance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté britannique

M. Paul Cambon saisit, &c

Ambassade de France, Londres,
le 7 juillet, 1913.

[31532] No. 169

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(*Received July 9.*)

Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 8, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, herewith a telegram, dated the 7th instant, relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 169

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic) *July 7, 1913.*

INTERNATIONAL Commission of this morning, and decided to telegraph the following resolution to the Ambassadors' Conference, London.

'Consider the presence of some naval senior officers in Scutari now unnecessary, and affairs could quite well be maintained by one of the admirals now at the Powers quiet and in order.

'Senior officer of international forces could always advise Admirals on the spot.'

Other members of commission believed to be sending similar telegrams to their respective Governments.

[31554] No. 170

Memorandum communicated by French Embassy, July 9, 1913.

PAR un mémorandum en date du $\frac{27}{N}$ juin dernier son Excellence le Secrétaire d'Etat a bien voulu communiquer à l'Ambassadeur de France la copie d'une note verbale qui a été adressée à la Légation de Sa Majesté britannique à Sophia par le Gouvernement bulgare relativement aux biens meubles et immeubles abandonnés au cours de la dernière guerre, par leurs propriétaires musulmans. Sir Edward Grey exprimait en même temps le désir de connaître notre point de vue.

Le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de la république, à qui M. Paul Cambon a transmis ce document, vient de lui faire savoir que la Légation de France à Sophia a reçu du Gouvernement bulgare une communication identique. M. Pichon a donné connaissance à l'Ambassadeur de Turquie à Paris, par une note verbale, dont copie est ci-jointe, des explications contenues dans la note bulgare. Ces explications n'ont jusqu'à présent fait l'objet d'aucune réponse de la part de Rifaat Pacha. Dans ces

conditions, le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de la république pense que, les explications du Cabinet de Sophia semblant de nature à démentir les appréhensions de la Sublime Porte, le Gouvernement français n'a pas à intervenir de nouveau dans cette question.

Ambassade de France Londres,
le 9 juillet, 1913.

Enclosure in No. 170.

Note verbale communicated to Turkish Ambassador at Paris by M. Pichon.

PAR une note verbale en date du 24 avril dernier l'Ambassade Impériale ottomane a appelé l'attention du Département des Affaires Étrangères sur un avis du Ministre des Finances bulgares, relatif aux biens meubles et immeubles abandonnés par leurs propriétaires musulmans ayant pris la fuite pendant la durée de la guerre.

Le Ministre de France à Sophia, interrogé sur la portée de cette mesure, a fait connaître à M. Pichon que, on l'avait le caractère qu'lui était prêté, cette disposition avait, au contraire pour but, dans la pensée du Gouvernement bulgare, de préserver les intérêts des absents. C'est ainsi que des autorités Royales avaient déjà, après justifications de leurs droits, restitué leurs biens à divers propriétaires musulmans de retour dans leurs anciennes résidences. Pour régulariser autant que possible cet état de choses, des baux à ferme avaient été dès le début des hostilités, conclus avec des locataires et le montant du fermage serait remis aux propriétaires rentrant dans le pays.

Quant aux biens meubles abandonnés par la population musulmane en fuite, le Département Royal des Finances aurait prescrit aux autorités compétentes de les recueillir et de les conserver dans l'intérêt des possibles jusqu'au retour de leurs propriétaires, à l'exception des meubles qui, de par leur nature, sont sujets à une détérioration, ceux-ci seront vendus aux enchères.

En portant ce fait à la connaissance de l'Ambassade Impériale des explications que précèdent, le Gouvernement a espéré lui rendre les appréhensions du Gouvernement ottoman. M. Pichon saisit, &c.

[31495] No. 171

Sir H. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 258.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 8, 1913.*

BUCHANAN Telegram No. 88 of 7th July.

Roumanian Minister has assured me that he has no instructions to approach the Bulgarian Government respecting any territorial question, and does not expect any, as such overtures are not well disposed to the present Prime Minister.

I gather from the Prime Minister that the Bulgarian Minister at Bucharest has discussed the situation fully with Roumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

It is also certain that negotiations are proceeding with Austrian Minister here.

The Bulgarian offer of territory will depend entirely on the results of military operations.

Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.

[31590] No. 172

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 325.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 9, 1913.*

TURKEY and Bulgaria.

Internal press and general atmosphere was decidedly more warlike yesterday, but as a counterpoise to any publication by semi-official agency of a statement

describing attitude and action of the Government, as reported in my telegram No. 323 of 7th July.

M. Natchevitch is expected here immediately, his mission being presumably to secure neutrality. Question of evacuation up to Enos-Midia line will not be probably even discussed with him in that connection, as Turkey demands it in fulfilment of conditions of peace signed at London, but the Porte will probably demand abandonment of Bulgarian claim to war indemnity, and acceptance of portion of Turkish National Debt.

Should Bulgarians refuse, or even delay to evacuate, Turkey will not hesitate to use force, and, should she meet with resistance, chauvinistic elements will probably override moderate counsels now professed, and an attempt to retake part of Thrace, and possibly Adrianople, is to be anticipated.

Any military success that Turks might score would be magnified in public, with the result that the Porte would become much less amenable to outside advice concerning reforms in Eastern Anatolia.

Sent to Sophia.)

[31591] No. 173.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 326.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople July 9, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 311 of 8th July.

The Grand Vizier has more than once given verbal assurances that orders had been issued for removal of mines, but His Majesty's consul-general at Smyrna telegraphed on 5th July that commodore stated that orders were limited to making preparations for their removal, and that he intended to remove only the inner field opposite fortress.

Missions addressed identic verbal note to the Porte on 8th inst., concerning immediate removal of all mines from Smyrna area.

I have had no answer to my enquiry as to which ports are now safe for navigation.

[31600] No. 174.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 92. Very Confidential.)
Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 9, 1913.*

I FEARN Bulgaria has now placed her cause unreservedly in hands of Russia.

It would, I foresee, be exceedingly expedient to hold Roumania back now that she has undertaken unless she is assured that general settlement will give her at least Turtukai-Baltchik line. Her mobilisation has been doubtless an important factor in the change in the attitude of Bulgaria, and it is at least arguable that she deserves some reward for her contribution to cause of peace.

Sent to Sophia.

[31594] No. 175.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 173.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Belgrade July 9, 1913.*

THE military attaché has arrived at Uskub, but is in private capacity as the other military attachés have not been allowed to go.

Please inform the War Office.

[31601] No. 176.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 99.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 9, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 242 of 8th July. Duties at Scutari.

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs would personally be inclined to let admiral use revenue for immediate requirements of Scutari, keeping careful accounts of sources whence it is derived. But before giving definite answer, which he has promised me as soon as possible, he must consult his financial advisers.

[31602] No. 177.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 9.)

(No. 100.)
(Telegraphic.) *Berlin, July 9, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 241 of 8th July.

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs entirely agrees with your view that Bulgaria should be pressed to evacuate districts in question.

[31597] No. 178.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 856.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Paris, July 9, 1913.*

SCUTARI.

Your telegram No. 262 re St. Jul.

French Minister for Foreign Affairs concurs with His Majesty's Government that matter should be settled by British vice-admiral in consultation with his colleagues.

[31452] No. 179.

Sir Maurice de Bunsen to Sir E. Grey.

(No. 40.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 9, 1913.*

THE Servian Chargé d'Affaires called at the Foreign Office on the 7th instant and left a copy of the note addressed by the Servian Government to the Bulgarian Government recalling the Servian Minister at Sofia.

A copy of this paper is enclosed.

M. Gruitch stated that he had received that morning a telegram from the Servian Government to the effect that the statement that a Servian division had been annihilated at Tchok was untrue.

He said that the Bulgarians attacked the Servians on the 30th June at 3 A.M. As a proof of the fact that the Bulgarians were the aggressors he said that the Servians during the fighting captured the papers of the 31st Bulgarian regiment amongst which they found the general order, dated the 29th June from the Bulgarian headquarters stating that war would begin between the Bulgarians and the Greco-Servian forces on the 30th June. The Bulgarians would advance at 3 A.M. and endeavour to surprise the enemy. A photograph of this order is being sent to M. Gruitch.

The Bulgarian advance, he said, was at first successful and the Bulgarian forces occupied Kriwolak, but the Servians then managed to turn the Bulgarians back and crossed the Vardar. The Servians have now reoccupied Kriwolak. The battle has been continuous all along the line practically for five days. The Servians have had 15,000 casualties and they estimate the Bulgarian losses at from 25,000 to 27,000.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

Enclosure in No. 179.

Note communicated to Bulgarian Government by Servian Government, July 6, 1913.

L'ARMEE bulgare, forte de plus de 120,000 hommes, avec artillerie, a passé la ligne de démarcation le 17 courant (30 juin), à 2 heures et quelques minutes du matin, est a assailli les avant-postes serbes et ses premières lignes de l'armée serbe, puis a commencé une attaque des plus déterminées, n'épargnant même pas les blessés qui sont restés sur le champ de bataille. Cette lâche attaque a obligé notre armée de se défendre et de repousser l'assaillant. La nouvelle de cette attaque traîtreuse a causé la consternation et la plus grande irritation dans l'armée et dans le pays, et elle a détruit toute confiance dans les déclarations pacifiques que le Gouvernement bulgare avait faites ces temps derniers. Tout ce qui s'est passé depuis n'a fait que confirmer le Gouvernement serbe dans la certitude que le Bulgare avait déjà auparavant décidé d'essayer de régler par la force le litige serbo-bulgare. Les documents trouvés chez les officiers bulgares faits prisonniers aussi que les déclarations de ces derniers prouvent, sans aucun doute, les intentions hostiles du Gouvernement bulgare contre la Serbie. Toutes les attaques sur la frontière (Zaitchar, Pirot, &c.) aussi que tout ce qui s'est passé depuis il y a quelques jours de l'armée bulgare démontrent que le Gouvernement bulgare, malgré ses déclarations pacifiques, a décidé et de sont mis hostilement à forcer la guerre à la Serbie sans déclaration préalable de guerre.

Constatant ce fait—tout inexplicable qu'il regrettable—le Gouvernement Royal serbe cesse à partir de ce jour, toutes relations avec le Gouvernement bulgare et rappelle son Ministre accrédité auprès de Sa Majesté le Roi de Bulgarie et confie à l'légation de de ses intérêts et de ses sujets au Ministre Impérial de Russie à Sofia.

29525] No. 180.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Elliot.

(No. 71.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 9, 1913.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 130 of the 15th ultimo relative to the question of the late Dr. Ittragast the cretan Government.

I concur in your view that it would be inexpedient to press this claim at the present moment, the island is formally annexed by Greece.

You should, when the time comes for taking action in the matter, reframe your claim against the Government that Greece by succeeding to the sovereignty over Crete, has *ipso facto* become liable for all the obligations of the previous Government, as being a principle what His Majesty's Government are strenuously resisting in many other more important cases.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[30388] No. 181.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 9, 1913.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant forwarding copy of a telegram from the Vice-Admiral Second in Command, Mediterranean enquiring whether certain payments made to the Commissioners of the Ottoman Public Debt at Scutari should not also be included in the surtax imposed during the war to be collected.

I am to state that Sir E. Grey has no information as to the extra duty on alcohol to which Vice-Admiral Burney refers, and I am to ask that enquiry may be made of him by telegraph as to its amount and the date of its original imposition.

I am to transmit to you herewith copy of a telegram which Sir E. Grey has addressed to His Majesty's representatives at the capitals of the other Great Powers,* proposing to leave to Admiral Burney's discretion the settlement of the questions raised.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

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* No. 159.

[30162] No. 182

Foreign Office to Admiralty

Foreign Office, July 3, 1913.

Sir,

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to transmit to you herewith copy of a communication from the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador* asking that the British vice-admiral at Scutari should be instructed to support a proposal to be made by his Austro-Hungarian colleague at the next meeting of the admirals that the prohibition to fly the Albanian flag on churches and mosques at that place should be rescinded.

I am to state that Sir E. Grey would be grateful if the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty would address a telegram to Vice-Admiral Burney asking his opinion of this proposal.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

31617] No. 183

Sir F. Elliot (Athens) to Sir Edward Grey (Received July 16.)

(No. 149.)

Athens, July 4, 1913.

Sir,

IN the mutual attempt to fasten upon their adversaries responsibility for the hostilities which began on the 30th June the Greek and Servian allies appear to have the advantage over the Bulgarians. They say (1) that if they had arranged a concerted scheme to attack the latter they would have advanced long ago, and not given the Bulgarians time to complete their concentration; (2) that if they had been the aggressors they would not have chosen the weakest points of their line on the coast of Macedonia, the Pangaeus and Nigrita as the point of departure; (3) that so little they expected an attack at the moment when the Queen was at Athens with her mother the Empress Frederick, was surprised and obliged to telegraph urgently for reinforcements; (4) that the Bulgarian advance had been carefully planned beforehand. Proof of this is found in the fact that the pass along the road from Demir Hissar to Salonica was already carried on the 30th, before it could possibly have been known that fighting had begun, that the Bulgarian troops encountered by the Greeks in the valley of the Vardar were already on the move southwards, and that prisoners taken from among them said that they had been prepared for the Salonica enterprise twenty-four hours.

The Bulgarian Minister, who had protested on the previous day against the Greek attack, called on M. Venizelos on the 1st with a message from M. Daneff saying that orders had been given to the Bulgarian army to cease hostilities and remain in the positions it occupied. He added that an enquiry would be held as to the case of the flag, and asked that the same should be done on the Greek side. M. Venizelos replied that after the Bulgarian attack he could not give such orders. In fact, the army was already ordered to advance and drive the Bulgarians beyond the Nestos. It was recently agreed that what they had crossed. As M. Coromilas afterwards said to me the Bulgarians had never suggested retiring of their own accord but had run home and it would be a great compliment on the part of the Greeks to allow them to make good the ground they had gained "by mistake," until they were ready to discuss a further cessation of hostilities.

The Bulgarian generals' orders for the advance of the Greek troops from Salonica, had been not to leave the Bulgarian troops there undisturbed, but it was represented to him that this was impossible. They were therefore summoned on the 30th June to leave the town within a few hours. Two months' officers having passed without complying, armed measures were taken and the following is the latest list of casualties in the fighting that ensued:—

Greeks.—Officers wounded 12, men killed 2, wounded 7, Cretan gendarmes wounded, 1 killed.

Bulgarians.—Men killed 17, wounded, 19, officers and 1,200 men taken prisoners. Civilians killed, 11, women taken prisoners.

* Part IX. No. 388.

The operation seems to have been carried out with as little disturbance of the civil population as possible. The prisoners were taken by sea, I believe, to Ithaca.

The Bulgarians in their retreat are reported to be burning and massacring everywhere. Ghevgeli, Bogdantsa, and other places are named. This morning M. Coromilas told me that at Nigrita, whence all able-bodied men had fled before the Bulgarians, the Greek troops on entering found nothing but a heap of smoking ruins and corpses of old men, women, and children. The Bulgarians are also reported to have bayoneted small bodies of Greek troops whom they had captured. The result is that the Greek army is burning for revenge, and there is no holding them. I fear there will be little quarter given, except in cases of large bodies of men surrendering together, as was done by a whole Bulgarian regiment yesterday near Nigrita. The population of Athens, though moved by the stories of these atrocities, and relieved by the success of their army, remain undemonstrative. M. Coromilas, however, though not of an emotional nature, was evidently under the influence of strong feeling when he asked me if a consular officer could not be sent to Cavalla, where, in the absence of the British and Russian vice-consuls there is no foreign representative, and where, as he learnt on trustworthy authority, it is the intention of the Bulgarians to exterminate the Greeks.

I told him all I could do was to forward his request by telegraph.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT.

31774] No. 184

Count Benckendorff to Sir E. Grey.—(Received July 18.)

Imperial Russian Embassy, London,
My dear Minister, *July 8, 1913.*

I ENCLOSE herewith a copy of a telegram which I have received from M. Neklidoff's last telegram. I have sent it to you yesterday.

Yours sincerely,
BENCKENDORFF.

Enclosure. No. 184

Summary of Telegram from M. Neklidoff.

(Confidential.)

M. NEKLIDOFF telegraphs from Sofia by Tsarskoe Selo:—

"Je crois pour autant qu'il en peut juger, les rencontres entre les armées alliées, serbes et grecques sont dues aux ordres personnels secrets du Général Savoff à l'insu du Gouvernement. Mes impressions sur le leader roumain M. Daneff sont redevenues ce qu'à mon voyage à Saint Petersbourg. Informé de cette décision et de sa confirmation par le Roi, le Général Savoff a proclamé et dénoncé l'accord d'attaquer. Le Général Savoff s'attendait à la chute du Cabinet et à l'avènement au pouvoir des Stambouloyistes encouragé[s] appuyés de l'Autriche, qui pensait garantir à la Bulgarie la neutralité de la Roumanie et promettre des concessions territoriales.

Effrayé après coup de sa résolution a provoqué le Général Savoff a reçu l'ordre catégorique du Roi et du Gouvernement d'arrêter l'attaque, mais trop tard. Le résultat a été la capture par les troupes serbes du 7e régiment avec six canons. C'est alors que le Roi s'est décidé à rappeler le Général Savoff et à nommer commandant général des troupes le général Iwanoff. Pendant ce temps, a assuré le Cabinet de sa confiance. La démarche de M. Daneff a eu lieu avant l'espoir qu'il pourrait continuer à gouverner avec le Parlement, mais l'espoir de prompts succès ultérieurs et de la neutralité turque.

"La situation actuelle paraît être très grave. L'armée grecque se trouve à l'arrêter de sorte grave possible. Des succès contre la Serbie sont plus probables et à bref délai. Sa prise de Pirina est sans intérêt contre une attaque éventuelle de la Roumanie, et des mouvements dans les troupes turques inquiètent le Ministre d'Autriche a été reçu deux fois en trois jours par le Roi. La chute du Cabinet pourrait en ces circonstances amener un arrangement avec l'Autriche et la Roumanie.

Pourtant, il semble douteux que le Comte Tarnowski puisse garantir à la Bulgarie la neutralité de la Roumanie et sa démobilisation contre la concession de la ligne Turtukai-Baltchik. Cette incertitude, M. Nekludof a des raisons de le croire, fait hésiter le Roi et les incertitudes de M. Danef continuent. M. Nekludof considère la situation de la Bulgarie critique."

[31615] No. 185

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 370.)

Sir, *Paris, July 9, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith the accompanying despatch from the British delegate on the Balkan Financial Commission on the subject of the belligerents' claims to compensation.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure in No. 185.

Sir F. Hardinge to Sir Edward Grey.

(No. 3.)

Sir, *Paris, July 4, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the committee of the Balkan Financial Commission appointed to consider the claims to compensation presented by the belligerents in connexion with the settlement of the Balkan debts, transmitted to me by Mr. Secretary Bax-Ironside's despatch No. 2 of the 3rd instant and the supplementary claims of the Bulgarian Government of which copies are now enclosed.

After a preliminary meeting to proceed to-morrow between the Ottoman and Balkan delegates, the question of the Greek claim in respect of the maintenance of Turkish prisoners of war will be further considered.

The Ottoman Delegate took up the position that under articles 6, 7 and 17 of the Peace Agreement, "The Hague Convention respecting the Laws and Customs of War on land, the cost of maintenance [prisoners of war, other than the pay of officers, was to be] charge of the capturing State."

It was finally agreed, on the proposal of M. Raffalovich, that the object of the Ottoman delegate was, with respect to claims arising so far as possible out of conditions of war, to make the capturing State responsible for the maintenance of prisoners of war, but that this was a subject [which] on the part of the capturing State for [reimbursement of the expenditure] may have incurred for such maintenance. M. Rafalovich [made] the Treaty of Paris [a case] an instance where such a claim could be put forward and accepted.

After the conclusion of discussion, M. Raffalovich, as vice-president, decided to request each delegation in turn to express its opinion on the Greek claim.

The Austro-Hungarian delegations declared their inability to express such an opinion without reference to their Governments.

In view of the prominent part taken by the British Government in opposing the claim of the Balkan States to a war indemnity, I thought it expedient in order to maintain the character for impartiality of the British delegation in the eyes of the Balkan delegations to take a less reserved attitude. I therefore said that, while I had no instructions from you as to the opinion I should express, my personal view was that the Greek claim was fourteen in substance.

The Italian delegate accepted a similar attitude. The Russian delegate supported the Greek claim without reserve, and the French delegation, which had not spoken in its proper alphabetical order, said that it must consult its Government.

A discussion followed in regard to the remaining claims put forward by the Greek and Bulgarian delegates, but except in regard to Greek claim No. 5 in respect of the repatriation of Ottoman refugees, which the Ottoman delegation accepted, no conclusion in regard to them was arrived at.

I have, &c.
H. P. HARVEY.

[31659] No. 186.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 10.)

Sir, *Downing Street, July 9, 1913.*

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th June, relative to the disposal of the balance of the excess Cyprus revenues, and to state, for the information of Secretary Sir E. Grey, that he is clearly of opinion that the surplus monies in question should not be released except as part of a general scheme for the ultimate amortisation of the debt and the relief of Cyprus from some portion of the burden of the tribute, but that the particular arguments by which the retention is to be justified is rather a matter for the Foreign Office and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, than for this Department.

I am, &c.
(for the Under-Secretary of State),
H. J. READ.

[31980] No. 187.

Papers communicated by Count Benckendorff, July 10, 1913.

(A.)

M. Sazonof to Russian Ministers at Sophia, Belgrade, Athens, and Cettinje.

(Telegraphique.) *Saint-Petersbourg, le 26 juin (9 juillet), 1913.*

UNE effusion de sang se prolongeant relativement épuise les forces et les ressources des états balkaniques et prépare pour chacun d'eux de graves mécomptes et le caractère [illegible] publique presque toutes les victoires remportées par l'un ou l'autre de ces Etats.

En établissant le fait que les événements survenus ont eu pour résultat l'anéantissement effectif du traité existant, le Gouvernement Impérial invite les Gouvernements balkaniques à accepter sans délai aucun, les propositions suivantes:

1. La cessation immédiate des opérations militaires et la conclusion d'un armistice entre les combattants sur tous les fronts.

2. L'arrivée immédiate à Saint-Pétersbourg des représentants responsables des Etats susnommés afin d'établir sur les bases de la paix avec le concours également pour tous de la Russie et de la Puissance médiatrice.

Veuillez déclarer ci-dessus notre acceptation des conditions susmentionnées qui garantissent les intérêts de tous les Etats balkaniques, auxquels nous réservons nos responsabilités envers ceux les Etats qui ne les reconnaîtraient pas et leur enlevant en même temps tout espoir de tout appui possible venant de la Russie.

(B.)

M. Sazonof to Russian Minister at Bucharest.

(Telegraphique.) *Saint-Petersbourg, le 26 juin (9 juillet), 1913.*

Veuillez communiquer au Gouvernement roumain ci-joint. Veuillez en même temps exprimer que, dans notre opinion, la conclusion de la paix dépend surtout d'une pression opportune sur les Cabinets de Belgrade et d'Athènes. En l'exerçant la Roumanie aurait à jouer un rôle de premier ordre dans les Balkans. Sans verser, il faut l'espérer, une goutte de sang. Si le Gouvernement roumain nous aide à nos efforts de pacification nous croyons que quelque annexion ultérieure le territoire est la plus juste. D'un autre côté, nous pensons, d'après la déclaration du Gouvernement bulgare, disparaît tout motif équitable pour une attaque contre la Bulgarie par la Roumanie.

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* First (A.), second the Bulgarian reply to (A.), accepting these proposals.

[31687] No. 188.

Millars' Timber and Trading Company to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

Sir, *Pinners' Hall, London, July 9, 1913.*

BALKAN Financial Commission.

In response to the request made recently by the Foreign Office through the press, I send herewith twelve prints of documents relative to rights held by my company to cut, manufacture, and remove beech timber from certain forests near Agoustos in the vilayet of Salonica, Turkey in Europe.

The company has spent a large sum of money in constructing a sawmill station, with houses, stores, machinery, and other works, on property belonging to Mr. T. A. Conely at Giaf Tchair, near Agoustos, in laying a railway for the transport of timber from the forests to the sawmill, and in constructing an aerial ropeway for the conveyance of timber and other goods between the sawmill and the Salonica Monastir Railway. The works are not yet completed, having been interrupted and seriously delayed in consequence of the war. The company's engineers have remained at the works through out the war, and are now pressing forward the work of construction as rapidly as possible.

The undertaking was approved and authorised by the Turkish Government before the outbreak of war. Sanction was also given by the Government to the admission, free of customs dues, of the machinery, materials, &c. required for the construction of the works.

The ropeway will traverse land belonging to (1) the Convent of Prodromos, and (2) the G[illegible] Farm, and wayleaves have therefore been obtained from the respective owners. The ropeway will be carried on trestles and there [illegible] three stations, one at the head of the line near the sawmill, one at the [illegible] along the railway; and [illegible] A siding [illegible] track is to be constructed on land belonging to G[illegible] Farm alongside the railway at a point adjacent to the lower [illegible] station of the ropeway. The agreement with the Oriental Railway Company relative to this siding provides [illegible] for a rebate from the usual transport rates upon timber [illegible] company.

[illegible] documents will be clear, but if any further information is desired I shall be ready to furnish it. I must explain that some of the documents in French are, I believe, translations only. They are printed from copies [illegible] the local [illegible].

My company feels [illegible] confident [illegible] your good offices and those of the British delegate on the commission to preserve its rights in every respect.

I have, &c.
ROBT. L. ALLEN,
Secretary.

[31756] No. 189.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 10.)

Confidential.

Sir, *Admiralty, July 10, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a telegram [illegible] sent from the Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Burney relative to [illegible] Affairs.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 189.

Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, July 9, 1913.*

REFERENCE to your No. 14.

Foreign Office enquire as to amount of and date of original imposition of extra duty on alcohol. They are suggesting to the other Powers concerned that you should be empowered to decide such questions as you may think fit when your colleagues have been consulted.

Governments requested to reply soon.

[31776] No. 190.

Memorandum communicated by Sir V. Chirol, July 10, 1913.

AS soon as the war in the Balkans began, the Mahommedans of India rushed to the conclusion that it was only another development of a conspiracy [illegible] part of all Christian Europe against the Islamic world, which had already been revealed in a succession of events, all unfavourable to Islam, since the Russo-Turkish war a quarter of a century ago. Egypt, Tunis, Morocco, Persia [illegible] one after the other passed more or less completely under the domination of Christian Powers [illegible] Turkey, the last Mahommedan Power, with the exception of Afghanistan, to maintain an independent position of its own, was being attacked with the [illegible] of the Great Powers of Europe. But Turkey enjoyed the sympathy not only of Indian Moslems. Amongst the Hindu Nationalists [illegible] press Turkey was supported [illegible] camp [illegible] Asia against Europe [illegible] the natives of India that Turkey [illegible] military [illegible] match for the Balkan States [illegible] Turks [illegible] victorious [illegible] feeling but of Pan-Asiatic feeling in India [illegible] victories in Thessaly in 1897 [illegible] the following [illegible] Turkish [illegible] when the armistice was signed in December [illegible] acceptance at the London Peace Conference [illegible] Moslems [illegible] the disaffected Hindus would have [illegible] against the inevitable resentment [illegible] Moslems [illegible] away very soon. But the prolongation of hostilities, with all the stories of atrocities committed by Christians upon Turkish Moslems [illegible] very remarkable degree the original bitterness of feeling [illegible] times [illegible] the result was that [illegible] March there was a very strong anti-British agitation [illegible] threatened [illegible] the British [illegible] The Aga Khan [illegible] a series of [illegible] Indian Moslems [illegible] urge Turkey [illegible] resistance [illegible] [illegible] Indian Moslems [illegible] purchase [illegible] The Aga Khan's position [illegible] recognised [illegible] Moslems [illegible] great surprise [illegible] fellow-traveller [illegible] gather from letters [illegible] Moslems [illegible] Mahommedans [illegible] But there [illegible] very strong [illegible] against them [illegible] Aga Khan.

himself can ever regain his position. The attitude displayed by the Indian Moslems in the course of last winter affords anyhow a lesson which it would be, I think, very unwise to ignore. In the present condition of India we cannot afford to estrange light-heartedly the loyalty of the Indian Mahommedans, who form a large, and in many ways extremely important portion of the population of India. The more intelligent amongst them do, I think, realise that Great Britain was never in a position either to prevent the outbreak of hostilities in the Balkans or to avert the consequences. They believe, however, that it does rest very much with Great Britain to maintain the integrity of Turkey in Asia and to help the Sultan to put his Asiatic House in order. That will afford the touchstone by which they will judge the assurances given by British statesmen that we entertain friendly feelings of real goodwill towards Turkey. If, on the other hand, we were to stand by, still more, if we were to take part in a partition of—Asiatic Turkey, it would acquiesce in a policy visibly directed towards it, we should, I am convinced, find ourselves speedily forced to face with a very serious outbreak of Indian Mahommedan feeling, and we should have certainly to reckon with a complete change in their attitude towards the maintenance of the British Raj.

[31981] No. 19.

Proposition to be submitted to the Powers to be held on July 15, 1913. (Communicated by M. Cambon, July 10, 1913.)

LES hostilités ayant éclaté entre la Bulgarie d'une part, la Serbie et la Grèce d'autre part, et la Turquie ayant été amenée à accepter la proposition d'entamer des négociations directes avec ses adversaires en vue de la conclusion d'un traité de paix, le Gouvernement de la République a pensé que les Puissances amies pourraient utilement user de leur influence auprès des Gouvernements intéressés pour les engager à faire choix d'un lieu de réunion pour les plénipotentiaires chargés de représenter les belligérants.

Le Gouvernement de la République a l'honneur de proposer à ses collègues de la Triple Entente et à leurs Alliés de désigner à cet effet la ville de Londres.

Il a, d'autre part, l'honneur de leur soumettre, dès à présent, les questions qui lui paraissent devoir être posées aux Plénipotentiaires ottomans, ainsi que les principes qui lui paraissent devoir servir de base à la discussion.

Il leur serait reconnaissant de vouloir bien lui faire connaître, dans le plus bref délai possible, si elles sont disposées à donner leur adhésion à ces propositions.

1° Quelles sont les limites territoriales que la Turquie devra abandonner pour obtenir la paix?

2° Quelles sont les îles de la mer Égée dont la Turquie devra consentir la cession?

3° Quelle sera la situation politique des îles de la mer Égée dont la Turquie ne consentira pas la cession?

4° Quelles garanties pourront être données pour la liberté et la sécurité de la navigation dans les Détroits?

5° Quelles sont les garanties à prendre pour la protection des intérêts économiques des Puissances?

6° Quelles sont les garanties à prendre pour la protection des minorités ethniques, religieuses et autres en Turquie?

31793 No. 92.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 251.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 8, 1913.*

PRIME MINISTER and M. Malinoff, ex-Prime Minister, have both asked me to assure Your Excellency that they will do their best to persuade Servia to cease military operations.

Heavy artillery fire from direction of Kustendil, distant about 40 miles, was heard here last night. King of Bulgaria left for Kustendil yesterday.

Bulgarian army is short of ammunition for heavy guns. All available troops throughout country are under arms.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[31794] No. 93.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 262. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 9, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 191 of 31st May.

M. Natchevitch, who has been staying at Vienna, has now left for Constantinople, where he will endeavour to obtain pacific assurances from Ottoman Government.

In view of present military situation Bulgarian Government are likely to show accommodating spirit in minor questions with Turkey.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

[31598] No. 194.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

[By Post.]

(No. 87.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Paris, July 3, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 203 of 8th July.

M. Pichon considers as reasonable the Turkish request that the Powers should move the Bulgarian Government to evacuate districts to be retroceded to Turkey. He has instructed the French Minister at Sophia to concert with his colleagues for the requisite communication to the Bulgarian Government.

[31714] No. 195.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 257.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 9, 1913.*

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs coincurs in views expressed in your telegram No. 201 of 7th July, and told me that we cannot do anything else but stand by the rest of the world. He would have no objection to your speaking privately to the Austrian Ambassador in the sense intended. He seems disposed to prepare to evacuate Kirk Kilisse, Adrianople and Tchataldja, whatever happens.

The Bulgarian Minister appealed to him yesterday to use his good offices to induce Bulgaria to accept Servian proposals. He replied that Bulgaria had put herself entirely in the wrong and must therefore accept what Russia considered to be the most favourable terms she could obtain for Servia. He had endeavoured to make this clear to the Minister.

Early in the morning Bulgaria were to place herself unreservedly in Russia's hands. As all hostilities must then cease, he would hope that Bulgaria and Servia might agree to such a leniency as would enable the Bulgarian Government to withdraw their troops from the Servian front and transport them to the Roumanian frontier, which would relieve the present tension.

Count Berchtold had told Prince Lichnowsky that Austria-Hungary would not allow Roumania to annex Silistria, but would be prepared to see Bulgaria cede Dedeagatch to Greece in exchange for Kavalla.

Prince Lichnowsky had also told me that Austria-Hungary would not allow Roumania to annex Silistria, but would be prepared to see Bulgaria cede Dedeagatch to Greece in exchange for Kavalla.

I remarked that I personally thought that the best solution would be for Roumania to annex Silistria, but that Austria-Hungary would not allow this. Prince Lichnowsky replied that Austria-Hungary would not allow Roumania to annex Silistria, but would be prepared to see Bulgaria cede Dedeagatch to Greece in exchange for Kavalla.

I remarked that I personally thought that the best solution would be for Roumania to annex Silistria, but that Austria-Hungary would not allow this. Prince Lichnowsky replied that Austria-Hungary would not allow Roumania to annex Silistria, but would be prepared to see Bulgaria cede Dedeagatch to Greece in exchange for Kavalla.

[31754] No. 196.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 253.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 10, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 9th July.

I met Minister for Foreign Affairs as I was leaving and found his views had undergone complete change since the morning.

Bulgarian Minister had, he said, transmitted request of his Government for Russia's intervention, and he had now telegraphed to Athens and Belgrade urging immediate cessation of hostilities and conclusion of armistice. He had told Minister that Bulgaria would have to pay the cost and spoke of Vardar as eventual frontier. From what his Excellency hears from Belgrade he does not think that Servians will

make difficulties, and he therefore hopes that the four Prime Ministers will come to St. Petersburgh ere long.

This sudden change of front on his Excellency's part may be due to some serious Bulgarian defeat. He did not attempt to explain it beyond saying that Bulgaria had behaved so badly that he had become pro-Roumanian, but that he did not want Roumania to go too far

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[31772] No. 197

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 89.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Paris, July 10, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 254 of 3rd July.

The French representative at Belgrade has been directed to urge the Servian Government to withdraw troops from Albanian localities referred to.

[31787] No. 198.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 326 a.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 10, 1913.*

MILITARY authorities are commandeering transport both here and at Smyrna.

[31792] No. 199.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 327.)
Telegraphic. *Constantinople, July 10, 1913.*

VICE-CONSUL at Dardanelles reported on 8th June that Turkish troops were moving out from Bulair and reoccupying Keshan district.

[31791] No. 200.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 10.

(No. 122.)
Telegraphic. *Intercepted.* *Athens, July 10, 1913.*

GREEK fleet has taken Cavalla. Army has forced Ilios Pass, capturing nine guns, and is advancing to Strumnitza plain. Greek advisors in night reported in action to-day at railway bridge west of Demir Hissar.

[31800] No. 201.

Mr. Cheetham to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 82.)
Telegraphic. R. *Constantinople, July 10, 1913.*

LORD KITCHENER'S telegram No. 18 of 12th June. Withdrawal of Turkish troops from Salonika.

Turkish force consisting of 500 men with 2 guns and 1 Maxim gun have left Salonika by Turkish steamer for Smyrna. Aziz Bey sent previously by land for Adrianople. Usual other orders as well.

Two Italian gunboats have, owing to our intervention, been ordered over to assist the Italians on west Mediterranean coast, and cruiser I have received the above threats of Turkish reinforcements of Lord Kitchener's assistance in the matter.

All quiet at Salonika.

(Repeated to Rome.)

[31798] No. 202

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 59.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 10, 1913.*

GREEK fleet took Cavalla this morning without opposition.

(Above sent to Constantinople and Athens.)

[31797] No. 203.

Consul Toosey to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 10.)

Telegraphic.) *Milan, July 10, 1913.*

VICE CONSUL CAMPBELL, Venice, telephones that he has received a letter from the Greek consul at Venice, by order of Greek Government asking Campbell to inform him of departure of any ships with arms and ammunition for Bulgarians. Campbell is replying to Greek consul that he is referring request to me, so I expect a letter from him to-morrow, which I shall forward to Foreign Office and request instructions. I am sending a similar telegram to British Embassy at Rome.

[31598] No. 204.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Rumbold.

(No. 153.)
Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 10, 1913.*

SIR F. BERTIE'S telegram No. 87 of 9th July. Evacuation of Turkish territory by Bulgaria.

You may concert with your colleagues with a view to communication as soon as all are similarly instructed.

31559[illegible] No. 205.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Elliot.

No. 72.)
Sir *Foreign Office, July 10, 1913.*

THE Greek Minister called at this office on the 7th instant, and left two papers, copies of which are enclosed.

1. The proclamation of King Constantine; and
2. A resume of the reports received at Athens in regard to the atrocities committed by the Bulgarians.

M. Gennadius said that he had been instructed to invite the particular attention of His Majesty's Government to the latter paper.

M. Gennadius further enlarged on the unprovoked nature of the Bulgarian attack. He said that the whole affair was arranged and carefully planned. The Bulgarians had gradually collected at Salonica and had when war broke out, or immediately by every means, their power to cross the Greek attacking force.

Asked whether he had any news of the fighting, he replied that there was nothing official, but that Greeks were well satisfied with their progress up to date, and the King was displaying considerable military aptitude, personally directing the conference of his army with the rest of the Greek army.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

Enclosure in No. 205

Papers communicated by M. Gennadius.

(1)

Proclamation.

To my People

I AM summoning my people to a fresh struggle. As allies of the other Christian States for the deliverance of our suffering brethren, we had the good fortune of seeing the common struggle crowned with victory and seeing the Greek arms triumph on land and sea. The Marquisate, Empire ceded to the Allies, the liberated territory convinced Greece as ever, and in accord with the other two allies, was ready at the incredible partition of the liberated territory in proportion to the rights of each. She ever proposed, as arbitrator, in the event of dissensions. Bulgaria, on the contrary, a voracious ally, refusing every understanding and every arbitration, resorted to appropriate herself the lion's share of the fruits of common victory. Granting the others no rights, she thought, based on her sacrifices, to have rights arising from the illegal necessity for aboriginal sacrifices to every species of fraud, she acted arbitrarily and, forgetting her role of guarantor to her allies, forgetting the lessons to be drawn from the bitter experience of the Balkan Wars of the past, she did the startling restitution of Europe's admiration, she at last went so far as to combat liberty itself by turning her arms against her former allies treacherously under foot at usurping their rights. Thus proving the sanctity and the aim of the common struggle.

In the face of such a disgraceful conduct on the part of Bulgaria all duties of the Allies vanish, leaving her free to bear the consequences of her crimes. I reminded their Governments of the possibility of such a contingency, and I declared as null and void all the previous decisions by which the Bulgarian claims were to be regulated, and I declared that Greece would not cede a single inch of the territories which is so necessary for their future safety and consolidation. The Hellenic people, in this solidarity with Servia and Montenegro, and confident in the justness of its cause, once more takes up arms and begins afresh the struggle for its homes and hearths.

My forces, on land and sea, which have made Greece greater, are called to a great and glorious struggle, such as the Greeks, already freed from Turkish tyranny, from the new slavery with which they are threatened. The Hellenic nation, strong in its consciousness of its right and in the heroism of its forces, will have to record in the Greek book of history and raised Greece to the level of the heroic nations of liberty, will, I am absolutely sure, once more spare no sacrifice for the success of the free struggle which is to complete and guarantee that work of liberation which was the goal of the struggle recently ended. And this struggle is blessed of God as was the first, as I invoke His benediction. For the angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them. Long live Greece! Long live the Hellenic nation!

Done at Baltza, the 29th June, 1913.

CONSTANTINE.

(2)

M. Coromilas to M. Gennadius.

(Telegraphic.) *Athens, June 23–July 6, 1913.*

PENDANT la compagnie presque du village Sargan, une compagnie grecque, le péripatos, assaut à la baïonnette afin de déloger l'ennemi, protégé par ses arrières. Premier assaut échoua, et la compagnie dut se retrancher et repousser la poussée ennemie à 200 mètres en arrière. Le Sous-Lieutenant Marcantonakis et quelques soldats, ne pouvant à cause de leurs blessures suivre cette retraite, restèrent à quelques mètres de distance loin des remparts de l'ennemi. Une demi-heure après, la compagnie ayant entrepris un second assaut plus impétueux, a réussi à chasser l'ennemi et à occuper ses positions fortifiées. Alors, les soldats grecs remarquèrent avec horreur que le corps du Sous-Lieutenant Marcantonakis avait été horriblement mutilé. On lui avait coupé la gorge et on creva

en même temps les yeux de ses soldats. Ce furent des soldats bulgares qui avant commis cet acte horrible, profitant de la retraite susmentionnée. D'un autre côté, suivant des informations télégraphiques des autorités militaires de Kilkish, les Grecs y ont gardé leurs blessés, pour pouvoir transporter par le premier train partant pour Salonique une trentaine de blessés bulgares. Par un autre train ont y avait envoyé encore cinquante blessés bulgares.

La tactique suivie par l'armée bulgare à Negrita, Ambarkiot Salaurand, Sarigal, Yantsalar, Gaveshe continue, avec une cruauté pas grande si possible. En fuyant ils brûlent tous les villages, spécialement les villages turcs, pour que l'armée hellénique ne puisse profiter des ressources de subsistance qu'ils pourraient y trouver. Conformément à des dépêches du quartier général, les villages Yemkeny, Assa, Mahalès, Bonyoukli, Jenteli et autres au nord de Kilkis, brûlent. Suivant informations des prisonniers bulgares, quelques heures avant de quitter cette localité Farmée bulgare a mis le feu à différents points, pour rendre la marche en avant les Grecs plus difficiles. Ils employèrent le pétrole, dont l'odeur remplit encore l'atmosphère. L'armée grecque a pu, non sans grande difficulté, sauver, quelques-unes, parmi lesquelles celle, l'orphelinat catholique, et le couvent des sœurs. Le prêtre catholique, Père Michel, a décrit avec horreur les massacres que les Bulgares ont fait de sept mille Turcs et de Kilkish pendant les sept jours de leur occupation. De tous les coins de Kilkish qui se montaient à 1,000 environ il n'en reste plus un seul vivant. Dans la plupart des villages, il n'en reste plus que quelques femmes misérables.

[30298]

No. 206.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Vesey Brown.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 10, 1913.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, regarding your Sultan's concession in Southern Albania, that this proposed arrangement should in future be addressed to your legal advisers, Messrs. Frances and Johnson, as you prefer that the correspondence should be conducted through you, as it appears to introduce unnecessary complications.

Sir E. Grey has not failed to take note that they are obtaining for you, and will furnish this department with the two certified copies of the contract to the cables charges which are expected.

Sir E. Grey has not failed to take note that they are obtaining for you, and will furnish this department with the two certified copies of the contract to the cables charges which are expected.

I am, &c.

W. LANGLEY.

[30326

No. 207.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Frances and Johnson.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, July 10, 1913.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, regarding Mr. Vesey Brown's Albanian concession.

I am to state that all communications will in future be addressed to your firm, unless your client prefers that the correspondence should be conducted through him, as it appears to introduce an unnecessary complication into the treatment of this question to correspond both with you and him.

I am to state that Sir E. Grey has caused a letter in this sense to be addressed to Mr. Brown.

I am, &c.

W. LANGLEY.

[32184 No. 208.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 14.)

(No. 172. Confidential.)

Sir, *Rome, July 3, 1913.*

MY return to my post from leave of absence coincided with the departure of the Minister for Foreign Affairs for Kiel and Stockholm, in attendance on the King of Italy. I was, therefore, only able to see the Under Secretary of State, with whom I had some conversation yesterday. Prince Scalea was, as he always is, very communicative, but he had nothing to tell me which could throw light on the latest phases of the Balkan issues. The most interesting remarks he made concerned the attitude of Roumania, which he believed, might become an important factor for the preservation, or rather the restoration, of peace among the allies. He said that at first it was very easy to get Roumania to play the game of Austria, and co-operate in establishing a Bulgarian hegemony at the expense of Servia. Roumania desired to see a more evenly distributed balance of power in the Balkans. She had not anticipated that Austria could just now do anything for the Roumanians of Transylvania, and she was not satisfied with Silistria. She was, therefore, deaf to the blandishments of Vienna on behalf of Bulgaria. At the same time she did not want to break openly with the Triple Alliance, and so continued to maintain very friendly relations with Italy, who was on her part, disposed to be on the best of terms with the non-Slav or not exclusively Slav elements in the Balkans. He thought that the combination thus arrayed against her would be too strong for Bulgaria. As to which party was really to blame for commencing unofficial hostilities he could offer no opinion.

After seeing Prince Scalea I called on the Russian Ambassador, whom I found on the eve of departure for St. Petersburgh, having convinced himself that there was little to be done in Rome at the present time, and that the moment was propitious for taking leave. He had seen the Minister for Foreign Affairs just before the latter left. M. Krouperskoy was, as usual, very bitter about the attitude of Austria, which was calculated to give the Balkan States every encouragement to fight among themselves. While all the other Powers were doing their best to avert war Austria had, he asserted, exercised strong pressure at Bucharest to prevent Roumania from ranging herself against Bulgaria, and had urged Italy to do the same, whereas the fear of Roumania's association with Servia and Greece was an important factor in inducing Bulgaria to keep the peace. The Austrian Government would not consent to any arrangement which would make the frontiers of Greece and Servia contiguous.

As regards the islands, M. Krouperskoy said that the attitude of Italy was rather perplexing. The Marquis di San Giuliano had spontaneously observed to him with reference to the declaration made by the Italian Ambassador at the meeting in London on the 11th of June (see your despatch No. 54 of the 11th June) that of course as Minister for Foreign Affairs he must abide by and support the line laid down by the Ambassador but that in practice it fully recognised that the question of the Ægean Islands could not be separated from that of the southern frontier of Albania and the consolidation of the new territories according to Greece. These questions were intimately connected and interdependent. But Italy was bound by engagements to consider Turkish susceptibilities and could not engage herself to make such a reserve. It was in this sense that the Ambassador's undertaking was to be understood. In the end Italy might be obliged to say to Turkey that, if she had not been able altogether ('entièrement' was the word used) to carry out her engagements under the Treaty of Lausanne it was because she had been obliged to bow to the decision of Europe. M. Krouperskoy attached considerable significance to this use of the word "entièrement" which the Minister for Foreign Affairs had himself underlined, when the former was reading on paper a note of his observations. The Ambassador deduced from this cryptic utterance that Italy would work to secure the restoration of one or more of the islands now occupied by her to Turkey. But she would never to keep any of her territorial acquisitions be regarded as quite excluded.

The interpretation by M. Krouperskoy was not necessarily the accurate. There were no doubt many other conditions which Italy had agreed between herself to carry out in the Treaty of Lausanne was hostile restoration of the islands, and the terms have generally now been observed. If, however, the impression which he derived from his conversation be correct, his opinion to assume that a deeper motive was involved than a simple desire as far as possible to assist the susceptibilities of Turkey and that a

supposed Italian interest was contemplated by the restoration to her of certain islands. The calculations would, I venture to think, rather be that, if certain islands, Rhodes for instance, or Astypalæa, could be saved from annexation to Greece, then at some future time when a final break up of the Ottoman Empire takes place, and the ambitions of the Great Powers are directed to the partition of Asia Minor, Italy would be able to assert a claim to these very islands, based on her previous occupation and surrender of them. They would, in fact, be held in reserve and classified with other lots which a number of Italians regard as "Italia irredenta," for vindication on a suitable opportunity. In submitting these observations I would refer to the information conveyed in Sir Francis Elliot's telegram No. 98 of the 17th ultimo, for which they perhaps present a plausible explanation.

The representative of Greece, whom I also saw, told me that when M. Theotokis came to Rome to announce the accession of King Constantine, he had been present at the interviews of the Greek ex-Prime Minister with Signor Giolitti and the Marquis di San Giuliano. M. Theotokis had discussed with both statesmen the possibility of an international commission to investigate the position of nationalities and the desire of the local populations on the frontier between Albania and Greece. Signor Giolitti had he said, appeared to regard such a proposal with favour, and the Marquis di San Giuliano, while strongly opposed to the idea of a plebiscite, did not categorically reject that of an international commission. His Excellency is however, no doubt aware that we can count upon its rejection by Austria.

I have, &c.
RENNELL RODD.

[31813] No. 209.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 11.)

No. 173.)

Sir, *Rome, July 7, 1913.*

ON receipt of your despatch No. 145 of the 2nd instant regarding the position of British tobacco merchants in Turkish territory I took occasion to discuss the matter with Mr. Dering addressed a note to the Italian Government in accordance with your instructions.

In the reply which I have now received the Minister for Foreign Affairs expresses himself as follows:

"I must agree with the view held by Sir Edward Grey that it is the right of a State to institute monopolies of any kind in its territories, provided they involve no conflict with the treaties in force. In the present instance however, we have to consider a measure which would have effect in certain areas of Turkey ceded to the Balkan allies under the treaty of the 30th May. In those territories Italian subjects and Italian commerce have and enjoy special economic privileges arising out of the régime of the capitulations. Therefore the King's Government is disposed to hold that the future position of Italian commerce in those regions can only be determined by special treaty between Italy and the particular Balkan State which will extend its sovereignty over that territory."

The note concludes by expressing the hope that this view will be shared by His Majesty's Government whose opinion on the matter the Italian Government will be glad to learn.

I have, &c.
RENNELL RODD.

[31814 No. 210.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 14.)

(No. 204.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, July 5, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the Novoe Vremya yesterday published a telegram from its correspondent at Sofia stating that M. Sazonoff had sent a telegram to the Greek Government severely criticising the attack made by the Greeks on the Bulgarian garrison at Salonica.

The report was of course entirely without foundation, and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs has thought fit to publish a denial in the "Official Messenger" of to-day's date to the effect that no telegram has been sent to any one of the Balkan States, and that owing to the impossibility of determining the degree of responsibility attached to any one of the Governments concerned in the events which are now taking place, the Imperial Government cannot in common with the whole of Russia regards with open disapproval the present fratricidal war among the Balkan States, and the policy which led to this armed conflict between them.

I have, &c.
GEORGE W. BUCHANAN.

[31874] No. 211

Mr. Elliot to Sir E. Grey. (Received July 11.)

(No. 501.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 6, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith despatches from His Majesty's acting consul-general at Salonica reporting his journey from Cavalla to Salonica.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 211.

Acting Consul-General Smith to Sir E. Grey.

(No. 60.)
Sir, *Salonica, June 30, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that, in accordance with your instructions, I left Constantinople on the 19th instant for Salonica, travelling via Dedeagatch and Cavalla.

The Bulgarian steamer "Saratoga" left Varna for Russian ports on the 17th instant, and I was informed by the Bulgarian Delegate and Cavalla harbour authorities that 4,000 troops from Bear Alan-dja, Eski Cristal, Ineli, and Kirk Kilisse were brought to Cavalla to be sent to Varna by this steamer. A large number of wounded Bulgarians were also transported by sea to Varna from Dedeagatch by the "Saratoga" and other steamers.

At the same time a number of sick and wounded Greeks, Turks, and Servians passed through Cavalla, coming by land from Xanthi, Nas, Djuma, and Demir Hissar.

The town of Cavalla itself has not been damaged, as I was informed by the Turkish Delegate, but the forts on the hills surrounding the entire port and town have been dismantled, and the guns moved on the 18th instant to Kalandra, the western gun-position on the hills overlooking the entire port and town. These guns have been taken to Bunar Kaya, on the coast some 4 miles west of Cavalla. An observation post has been established at Kalandra Bay. All troops are connected by telephone with Cavalla. A powerful search-light has been set up in the town itself, and shortly before my departure eight machine-guns were brought from Dedeagatch.

I left Cavalla on the 21st June, having obtained permission from the Bulgarian general staff at Sopia to travel by motor-car from Drama to Dedeagatch.

As I passed through the once-flourishing districts of Cavalla and Drama I noticed that the Turkish peasants were everywhere working on their farms, in some cases under the surveillance of a Bulgarian soldier. The commandant at Drama, Colonel Gagof, with whom I travelled to Xanthi, informed me that the Bulgarian Government had realised the necessity of stopping the disastrous peasantry under their rule, and that he had been ordered to visit his district to sow their crops and had provided them with soldiers to prevent their being molested or their oxen confiscated. Crops are likely to be short this year, as in previous years, but the peasants of the Cavalla and Drama districts will be saved from actual distress.

At every station between Drama and Dedeagatch we met a military train. These trains were carrying troops, guns, ox-waggons, horses, and hospital nurses and equipment. Signs of the railway accidents that occurred at Buk-ia at the beginning of May and at Yenikeuy on the 1st June are still visible. At the former village some twenty

waggons were completely smashed up, but only five or six men were killed. At Yenikeuy twenty-five soldiers were killed as the result of a collision.

From Dedeagatch I travelled by Austrian steamer to Salonica. Sakaliersky, the Bulgarian vice-consul at Cavalla, was on board, travelling to Valona. I had some conversation with him and gathered that he was in close touch with M. Danef, and that his sentiments were at present rather anti-Russian and inclined to be pro-Austrian. His object in travelling to Valona may be to obtain the assistance of Albanian irregulars for Bulgaria in case of war with Servia or Greece.

The spirit of the Bulgarians, I gathered, as I observed it at Cavalla and on my journey, was bellicose in the extreme. Offences against Servians and Greeks who they say exacted the ashes of burning towns and districts while the Bulgarians were fighting at the front in the Turkish war. Unlike the Greeks, who are invoking European intervention to protect them, the Bulgarians are eager for war, and are confident of victory. The war with the Bulgarians is, indeed, not nearly over, and that against the Turks in Thrace is likely to absorb the main energies of combatant Powers for some time to come. Cavalla itself is full of anxiety as to the future, for it is known and felt that they are not to have a town like Salonica, and the Bulgarian local authorities have been given to understand that they are not to harbour Greek vessels.

Seeing that the Bulgarian concentrations are practically unopposed, and that the Bulgarian central forces are not engaged in any way, I feel that a early Bulgarian advance would seem to be very much to the advantage of Bulgaria, while the occupation by the Greeks will at present be prevented by the engagements in Thrace.

I have, &c.
JAMES McBRIAN.

[31875] No. 212

Mr. Marling to Sir E. Grey. (Received July 14.)

(No. 302.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 9, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's acting consul-general at Salonica on the subject of fighting which has taken place between the Greeks and the Bulgarians at Salonica.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 212.

Acting Consul-General Wrapte to Sir E. Grey.

(No. 61.)
Sir, *Salonica, June 30, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that about noon of Monday the 30th June General Hessapchief left Salonica hurriedly by train. It transpired subsequently that Bulgarian troops had attacked a Greek detachment at the Cavalla district and driven them out of Litten Bay, and that fighting between Greeks and Bulgarians should become general during the night on the western slopes of Mount Langhour, and was still continuing. To-day I am informed that the Bulgarians had suddenly attacked an important bridge near Ghevgheli and practically controlled that town. The train which left this morning for Uskub stopped beyond Gumenaga and subsequently, acting on orders received, returned to Salonica. A rolling-stock on the line was brought back at the same time. Hearing of the Bulgarian attacks on Greeks and Servians, the Greek authorities in Salonica on the early afternoon decided to disarm the Bulgarian soldiers in Salonica. Those who were found on the streets were at once disarmed. Those who resisted were killed fighting or were captured and lodged in the White Tower. About 5 P.M. notice was given to all Bulgarian soldiers in their various barracks throughout the town to surrender their arms within an hour's time.

At 6.30 P.M. firing suddenly broke out all over the town, and the various houses in which the Bulgarians were lodged were attacked simultaneously. The firing was heavy

and continuous and continued without abatement until 9 P.M., after which only desultory fighting was heard. The fighting was fiercest in the avenue of the Boulevard Hamidieh where several Bulgarian posts were situated. Here heavy guns were used, and the fighting was of the fiercest description, bombs being used.

I have, &c.
JAMES MORGAN.

[31878] No. 213

Mr. Wartenweiler to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 593.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 6, 1913.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 449 of the 15th May I have the honour to forward herewith copy of a letter from the President of the Ottoman Public Debt with respect to the Debt's interests at Samos.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 213.

Mr. Block to Sir G. Lowther.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Constantinople, le 18 juin (1er juillet), 1913.*

J'AI l'honneur de vous confirmer ma lettre du 5 (17) mai dernier, par laquelle je portais à votre connaissance que votre Excellence la réclamation adressée par les autorités helléniques à notre agence de Samos à l'effet de se faire remettre aux lieu et place de la première annuité semestrielle échue à ce jour par la Dette, celle pour l'affermage de la saline de Dilo.

Notre Conseil ne doute pas que la haute influence des Puissances protectrices ne se soit employée dans le but de faire revenir le Gouvernement provisoire hellénique sur ses prétentions. Il doit toutefois, à regret, à votre Excellence que ledit Gouvernement provisoire, persistant dans son attitude intransigeante, a remis par écrit à notre agent local, le 16 (29) mai écoulé, une sommation enjoignant, qu'un délai de dix jours pour le versement des 75,000 piastres réclamées et les intérêts de cette somme depuis le 17 mars, 1913, à défaut de quoi la saline serait mise en état de saisie conformément aux exigences des autorités grecques, faute de quoi la saline serait saisie et exploitée par ces dernières qui exerceront contre, de la Dette publique en dehors des sommes prélevées un montant de 50,000 fr. pour les travaux de réparation de la saline.

Cette déclaration, dont votre Excellence voudra bien trouver ci-près sous ce pli copie, avait déjà reçu un commencement d'exécution par la saisie dans l'île des dépôts de sel de cette saline.

Or bien qu'un Gouvernement provisoire soit *de facto* substitué à la précédente organisation, notre Conseil est d'avis que *de jure* ledit Gouvernement ne saurait exiger l'exécution à sa faveur du contrat antérieurement conclu avec celui-ci tant que les Puissances protectrices n'auront pas notifié leur reconnaissance du fait accompli à Samos par ce changement de régime.

En admettant même l'hypothèse d'une telle reconnaissance, le procédé du Gouvernement provisoire ne saurait pas moins l'une incorrection notoire, car c'est au siège central de la Dette publique à Constantinople qu'il aurait dû faire parvenir ses réclamations par telle voie que de droit au lieu de les adresser à l'agent local de l'administration, dont la compétence ne saurait s'étendre au litige en question et qui doit nécessairement se borner en l'occurrence, à exécuter les ordres qui lui sont donnés.

Le Conseil d'Administration de la Dette publique est persuadé du fait nouveau dont je viens de faire part à votre Excellence, a décidé de porter de rechef les prétentions du Gouvernement provisoire de Samos à la connaissance des Ambassadeurs des trois Puissances protectrices. Il espère encore que leur haute intervention amènera ledit Gouvernement à renoncer à ses exigences.

Je dois, en terminant, ajouter, pour répondre au reproche que les autorités helléniques font à notre Administration de ne pas faire le nécessaire pour l'approvisionnement en sel de la population de Samos, que toutes les mesures sont prises, au contraire, pour qu'elle ne puisse à aucun moment en être dépourvue. Les extractions à Samos

même ont dû, il est vrai, être suspendues de novembre, car pour éviter des frais inutiles, la production de sel marin pour la presque-totalité de l'Empire a été concentrée dans les salines de Phocée près de Smyrne; mais, grâce au stock de sel encore en réserve dans les dépôts de l'île, et quand celui-ci sera épuisé, grâce aux expéditions de sel de Phocée qui y seront faites en quantité suffisante, les habitants sont assurés de n'en manquer jamais.

Veuillez, &c.
Le Président du Conseil,
ADAM BLOCK.

Enclosure 2 in No. 213.

M. Sofoulis to M. Procopé.

Traduction.)

M. le Représentant *Samos, le 6 mai, 1913.*

PAR lettre datée d'hier de M. le Commissaire des Finances, j'ai été porté à notre connaissance que la Banque ottomane dont vous êtes le représentant, ne tenant pas les engagements pris par la convention conclue le 12 mars de l'année 1895 vis-à-vis du Fisc de Samos par laquelle la saline publique de l'île a été cédée à la Banque, n'a pas, à ce jour encore, versé, quoique plusieurs fois elle ait été invitée à se conformer à ses engagements, à savoir de payer le premier versement du bail du premier semestre de la dixième année, au commencement de la quatrième année de la troisième période des cinq années au renouvellement de la convention, deux ans avant, celle-ci négligeant également de faire observer temporairement la saline, de sorte qu'elle ne pût naturellement produire plus que la quantité de sel entre 4000 à 5000 kilogrammes qu'elle produisait avant son entrée en exploitation, cette administration ayant déclaré que cette année elle ferait exploiter après la convention, ne voulant pas observer temporairement la saline, elle ne devait pas l'avait prise à la remettre telle que l'a prise et comme elle était lors, elle l'avait prise.

Prenant en considération, d'après les informations que le Gouvernement a dû prendre des employés compétents, que la quantité de sel existant dans les dépôts de la saline et dans ceux des différents ports de l'île s'élève seulement à 1,000 kilogrammes et qu'aucune mesure jusqu'à ce jour n'a été prise par l'Administration de la Dette, celle-ci pour la production du sel naturellement que la quantité nécessaire pour la consommation locale de l'année courante s'élèvera à 40,000 kilogrammes environ par suite de la diminution de la production des années précédentes, j'estime que le pays se trouve privé de la quantité de sel nécessaire à l'alimentation et par conséquent, dans la nécessité de s'en approvisionner du dehors.

Par suite, donc, du refus opposé par votre Administration de tenir ses engagements, nous nous trouvons dans la nécessité de protester et d'exiger de vous de verser dans les dix jours à partir d'aujourd'hui le montant du versement échu du premier semestre de la quatrième année de la convention renouvelée avec les intérêts à partir du 17 mars, année courante date à laquelle vous avez été invité par le caissier principal à déposer le susdit versement, et entreprendre la réparation de la saline pour laquelle elle se trouvait lors de sa remise, ou qu'il soit nommé l'arbitre désigné par l'article 5 de la convention et comme tel, M. Photius E. Garofalidis fut nommé par le Gouvernement, pour que de concert avec vous, la susdite question à parvenir à l'expiration du délai échu précité leur opinion puisse être prononcée sur ces sujets, à savoir, versement du bail et ses intérêts à partir de la date de l'indication et réparation de la saline.

Aussi, nous vous déclarons au cas où le délai précité de dix jours serait passé sans un effet quelconque, la convention est déclarée comme nulle et non avenue, l'occupation de la saline et son exploitation pour le reste du temps sera passée au Gouvernement de Samos, et l'Administration de la Dette sera obligée de payer non seulement le versement arriéré du bail et ses intérêts, mais aussi les dépenses nécessaires pour la réparation de la saline qui sont fixées en or à 80,000 fr.

Enfin, nous vous déclarons encore que les dépôts de sel à la saline ainsi que ceux se trouvant dans l'île sont saisis dès à présent par l'Administration de l'île pour que la contre-valeur du sel vendu entre dans la caisse générale avec communication à vous des bordereaux de vente et de perception en vue de l'acquittement du bail que vous nous devez.

THEM. SOFOULIS.

[31810] No. 214

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 251.)

Sir, *Berlin, July 8, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, translation of an extract from the "North German Gazette" of the 6th instant,* expressing the necessity for the Great Powers to maintain an attitude of non-intervention in the Balkan struggle and to limit the area of the conflagration. All the other papers follow the same lines, and there would appear to be absolutely no doubt of the desire not only of the German Government, but also of German public opinion, to avoid being dragged into any complications over this question.

The Secretary of State for the Foreign Office repeated to me at a recent interview as great a desire to prevent any of the Powers intervening. He said that, for internal reasons, Austria would probably be unwilling to make a declaration of non-intervention, but he was convinced that there was not the least danger of her intervening, except possibly in the very improbable event of Servia being victorious and trying to increase her territory at Austria's expense. He considered that Servia would be victorious against Bulgaria, and Bulgaria would be weakened more than a match for Servia and Greece. I asked what part Roumania would take, and he said that she was sure Roumania's one object was to get a slice of territory, and would not advance much further than was necessary to secure it. Roumania was playing the game of a clever man, and her object was to go down the new front as she wished to do it.

The Roumanian Minister, whom I saw yesterday, was very different in his language. He said he had no instructions, and was only speaking for himself, but as I am told that M. Bratianu has very close relations with his King, and is Government, and is very highly thought of at home, his words, even though unofficial, are probably not to be disregarded. He declared that Roumania did not want territory to the south, as a larger but a few square miles of territory there simply added to the cost of the expedition, and she could not, as the Italians had shown Bulgaria to achieve such a position in the Balkans as would make her a standing menace to her neighbours as the strong Servia would also be eager to be. But Austria would no doubt prevent that. M. Bratianu had clearly said to the Powers the impression very strongly, and I feel he has given the same impression to the French Ambassador that Roumania would help anyone and do what was necessary to ensure the success of Servia and Greece. I may mention that M. Take Ionescu made a speech three or four days ago to an assemblage of his political supporters about to leave Bucharest to meet the mobilisation orders, in which he said that he could have wished for a longer time to be left for good relations between Bulgaria and Roumania, but more respite was necessary, and things had become so pressing that it was impossible that there was not a coming to an understanding between the two.

The Turkish Ambassador surprised me very much by declaring that what Roumania wanted and aimed at was the creation of an autonomous Macedonia. M. Carabon explained to me that that was of course a Turkish ideal, but agreed that he did not believe Roumania would get it, and that in any case it was a wild aim and impossible one.

With the exception of Herr von Jagow, I believe, the very general belief amongst the people I have seen in the pro-Slav Balkan successor States and also considerable confidence in the good sense of the Greeks and Servians not to attempt to extend their territory beyond a certain extent in the event of their victory. Both the Greek and Servian Charges d'Affaires have expressed to all of us their firm conviction to this effect with regard to their respective Governments.

I ought, perhaps, to mention that a story has been published in the press to the effect that the German Emperor had offered to arbitrate between the various combatants, and I need hardly say that Herr von Jagow laughed at the idea when I referred to it.

I have, &c.
GRANVILLE.

* Not printed.

[31809] No. 213

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 375.)

Sir, *Paris, July 10, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour, with reference to my telegram No. 87 of yesterday's date, to transmit to you herewith copy of a note from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs to the effect that explanations have been furnished to his Excellency by the Turkish Ambassador in Paris respecting the Porte's desire that Bulgarian troops evacuating the district retroceded to Turkey and that the French Ambassador at Sofia has been instructed to concert with the Russian and Austrian colleagues in support of the request made by the Porte.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure in No. 213.

Note communicated to Sir F. Bertie by M. Pichon.

Paris, le 10 juillet 1913.

Les explications qui viennent d'être échangées à Constantinople entre le Grand Vizir et l'Ambassadeur de France, d'une part, et, d'autre part, entre les Ambassadeurs de Russie et d'Autriche-Hongrie et le Ministre des Affaires étrangères de Turquie, ont fait ressortir que la Porte désirait que les troupes bulgares qui évacueront les territoires cédés à la Turquie ne fussent pas remplacées par des troupes grecques ou serbes, mais par des gendarmes ottomans. Sa Majesté le Sultan a exprimé à ce sujet le désir que les troupes bulgares, en se retirant, remissent les postes, les armes et les munitions aux autorités ottomanes. Le Ministre des Affaires étrangères a fait connaître à l'Ambassadeur de France à Sofia que le Sultan Portait un intérêt particulier à cette question.

En remettant à son Excellence l'Ambassadeur de Turquie cette communication, M. Pichon a exprimé l'espoir que le Gouvernement ottoman donnerait des ordres pour que le retrait des troupes bulgares s'effectuât dans le plus bref délai possible. Il a rappelé que le Gouvernement de la République avait déjà fait connaître à la Sublime Porte qu'il était prêt à appuyer auprès du Gouvernement bulgare les demandes qu'elle pourrait présenter à ce sujet.

Les explications échangées à Constantinople ont fait ressortir que la Turquie ne poursuit d'autre objet que d'éviter que des incidents fâcheux ne compromettent la situation créée par le traité de Londres. Elle ne projette pas de faire occuper par ses troupes régulières les territoires qui lui seront rétrocédés. Dans ces conditions, le Ministre des Affaires étrangères de Turquie a déclaré à Sofia qu'il ne voyait pas de raison pour que la Bulgarie ne consentît pas à évacuer ces territoires sans opposer de résistance.

Le Gouvernement de la République a appris avec plaisir que le Gouvernement britannique avait donné des instructions dans le même sens à son Ambassadeur à Sofia. Il a également appris avec satisfaction que le Gouvernement russe avait donné des instructions favorables à la requête du Gouvernement ottoman.

Paris, le 10 juillet 1913.

[31817] No. 21

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 11.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 10, 1913.*

IN reply to your letter of the 17th ultimo, concerning the naval service which is to be given to the Turkish Government as to their naval expenditure, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will lay before the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the following observations:—

2. Assuming that the lines of Chataldja and Bulair can be held against Bulgaria, Turkish territory is now only accessible to the forces of a European Power by sea routes, except in the case of Russia, and is adequately self-contained and therefore secure in protection against European attack, save as the defence of Turkey's Continental frontier and the maintenance of her rule in order will compel her to maintain a considerable army in any case. It will probably be the more economical policy for her to rely upon this land force for protection against land attacks rather than to embark on additional expenditure for the maintenance of a fleet. Turkey will thus remain a preponderantly military Power, and any heavy naval outlay on her part would be unjustifiable.

3. Any scheme of floating defence to supplement the main protection afforded by her army would, however, be unsuitable as a defensive measure. For this purpose

torpedo craft would be more suitable than battleships. Turkey has no trade or other interests at a distance from home bases which only British ships can protect, but does, on the other hand, possess a long coast line capable of flotilla defence. If the Turks had a good submarine service working from secure bases a hostile convoy of transports would always hesitate to approach their coasts.

4. Turkish coast flotillas would also threaten British interests less than Turkish battleships, since they would not be capable of seriously threatening our vital Mediterranean interest, the eastern sea route, in the contingency of Turkey becoming hostile at some future day. The fewer foreign big ships there are afloat in the Mediterranean the more secure our position there must always be in the frequent changes of European international relationships, even if for the moment some of them belong to allied or friendly Powers.

5. For these reasons my Lords are of opinion that it would be our policy to discourage Turkey from embarking on a large expenditure on battleships, both for the sake of her interests and our own.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

31844] No. 217

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—Received July 11.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 10, 1913.*

I AM commanded by their Lordships Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, herewith telegrams, dated the 9th and 10th instant, relating to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.
A. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 217

Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney.

(Secret.)
(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, July 9, 1913.*

HAVE sent copy of your No. 17 to Foreign Office, and wish Commission's questions explained. Do the senior naval officers of the other Powers wish to leave their detachments behind and withdraw ships? Do they suggest you should remain at Scutari alone? Does the expression 'senior officer of the international forces,' which is to be consulted, mean senior officer of forces landed at Scutari?

Enclosure 2 in No. 217

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *July 10, 1913.*

COMMISSION all of the opinion that Scutari can now be left to the Junior Commissioner as I proposed in my No. 72 of 7th May. In this I concur. They consider however that if an admiral must remain, it should be the English one who does so.

Austria and Italy will have only one ship each provisionally cruisers, at mouth of Bojana if senior officers leave.

My reference in No. 17 to senior officers means those in command of detachments actually here.

Note.—From above it appears that "senior officers of the international force" should be read in No. 17.

[31801] No. 218

Director of Military Operations to Foreign Office.—(Received July 11.)

THE Director of Military Operations presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and with reference to the present war in the Balkans has had under consideration the question as to whether it would be advisable to send an Intelligence and Observation Officer to Bucharest at the present juncture.

Before putting this question definitely forward for the approval of the Army Council General Wilson would be glad to know whether Sir Arthur Nicolson sees any objection to this proposal.

The favour of an early reply is requested.

War Office, Whitehall, July 10, 1913.

31795] No. 219.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 263.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 9, 1913.*

FOLLOWING for Director of Military Operations from military attaché:—

Another detachment states that Servian attacks against the Fort Sultan Tepe Petrotza have been repulsed with great loss, and the enemy pursued towards Egri Palanka. Success is also claimed against the Bulgarians on the heights north of Doiran.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[31863] No. 220

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 264.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 10, 1913.*

MY despatch No. 85 of 21st May.

Bulgarian Government have issued orders to buy local cigarette papers exported into occupied territories, free sale of which has been hitherto prevented for considerations of monopoly, also to impose exclusive and heavier penalties for smuggling tobacco in contravention of 30th March, to which they have never replied.

Would you think it advisable to suggest that my colleagues should be instructed to insist on observation of points enumerated in above communication?

Despatch follows.

[31830] No. 221

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 265.
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 10, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from the military attaché for the Director of Military Operations:—

"I saw Chief of the Staff this afternoon. He said Servians are retiring before the attacks through Egri Palanka westward, and before the 4th army along the Ino Kratova Kumanova. Operations against Pirot from the south-west are suspended and 1st army has been ordered to withdraw from Servian territory to frontier near Belgradchik.

Only military information obtainable is meagre and untrustworthy.

Want of discipline and lack of officers are seriously affecting efficiency of Bulgarian army.

I hope to leave for Bucharest on 12th July."

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[31864] No. 222

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 11.

(No. 93. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 10, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 9th July.

Russian Minister tells me that, in course of conversation with Minister for Foreign Affairs yesterday as to the attitude of Roumania now that Bulgaria appeared to be beaten, his Excellency informed him that Roumanian claims were first a rectification of frontier and, secondly, a reservation of eventual settlement between the Balkan States. Russian Minister gathered, however, that it was the intention of the Roumanian Government even if these claims were admitted to send troops across the Danube to satisfy public opinion there.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[31949] No. 225.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. [illegible])
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 11, 1913.*

MOBILISATION of Roumanian troops [illegible]

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

31952 No. 224.

Sir E. Grey to Sir G. Barclay.—(Received July 11.)

No. 91. (Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 11, 1913.*

FRENCH Minister to-day left with me, and afterwards Minister for Foreign Affairs subsequently, the following précis of the Roumanian policy:

(1.) Minister for Foreign Affairs says that he views Roumania's movement as he does not imagine that she would take action in the event of war between Bulgaria and Servia, unless disposed by the desire to prevent, because of Servia, the protest Roumania against the claims of Bulgaria must at all costs be as great as possible. The Balkan situation, Roumania's dissatisfaction will surprise no one.

(2.) Roumania was resolved to cross the Danube, but was also resolved not to go beyond it. If therefore Bulgaria decided to be reasonable and sue for Balkan peace, Roumania would be helpful in the interest of all that this would happen as soon as possible. The Powers, some of them—for example France—guaranteeing the strict execution of that engagement, Roumania would stay her hand at once provided that she was sure that the Balkan States had come to an [group] arrangement.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[31953] No. 225.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 96.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 11, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 11th July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs also told the French Minister that Roumanian Government had recalled their Minister from Sophia, and that Roumanian troops would probably occupy Silistria to-day.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[31958] No. 296.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 1.)

(No. 267.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 11, 1913.*

FOLLOWING received from Varna:

"Remaining inhabitants are evacuating barracks and public buildings.

"Armament, ordnance, registers, and archives are being sent into interior. Hostilities expected at Baltchik."

[31959] No. 227.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July [illegible].

(No. 268.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Sophia, July [illegible], 1913.*

ROUMANIAN Minister left this morning.

Turkish Servian, Montenegrin, Greek Legations are now the only Sofia Representatives of Belligerents.

[31960] No. 228.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July [illegible].)

(No. 269.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 11, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 268 of 11th July.

Postmaster General has expressed to me medical opinion that as Roumanians will not meet with resistance, they will not think it necessary to use telegraphs to Bucharest which would only leave Sebastopol cable open, and would be prejudicial to private interests.

I promised to report his remarks.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

31962 No. 229.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 254.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 11, 1913.*

YOUR Secret and telegram of 8th July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs tells me that he has already telegraphed to Sophia in the sense desired by Turkey.

[31963] No. 230.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 255.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 11, 1913.*

TURKISH reform scheme.

I gave Minister for Foreign Affairs last night *aide-mémoire* embodying your telegram No. 248 of 3rd July, but our conversation was interrupted so I could not discuss the question in detail.

He said that he must examine it more carefully before giving me his reply, but that he never meant to assert that the Russian project must be accepted without modification. He remarked that Turkish scheme was worth nothing.

[31957] No. 231

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

No. 108.
(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July 11, 1913.*

MY despatch No. 38.

San Giovanni di Medua is to be completely evacuated by Montenegro on 16th July.

[31966] No. 232

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 110.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Posilipo, July 11, 1913.*

YOUR circular telegram of 8th July. Turkish territory occupied by Bulgarians.

The Italian Government have received similar representations.

The Italian representatives at the capitals of other Great Powers have been instructed to ascertain the views of the Governments concerned.

The Italian Government have as yet expressed no view of their own, and are waiting replies to their enquiries.

[31950] No. 233.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 123.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 11, 1913.*

RUSSIAN Government have proposed to Balkan States to suspend hostilities and discuss settlement at St. Petersburgh.

M. Venizelos says it is impossible to accede to this, after what has happened Bulgaria cannot be allowed breathing time, but must sign preliminaries of peace on the battlefield. Greek Government do not wish to reduce Bulgaria to impotence, but will not now be satisfied with what would have contented them before and must have Serres and Cavalla and, above all, guarantees of proper treatment of Greeks remaining under Bulgaria.

M. Venizelos hopes that this view will be thought reasonable and moderate by His Majesty's Government.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

[31945] No. 234.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

No. 124.
(Telegraphic.) *Decode.* *Athens, July 11, 1913.*

ON 9th and 10th July Greeks attacked Bulgarians in position in front of Derbend Han defile to the west of Demir Hissar. Bulgarian force comprised part of army defeated at Kilkish together with those troops which had been pushed across Struma from the Lahana Nigrita direction, and the Serres and Cavalla detachments, estimated at forty-four battalions in all. One Greek division watched fords to the south, and two attacked from Haj. Beilik. Attack completely successful, four heavy guns captured, and enemy are being pursued on both banks of river north. At the same time Greek troops from Strumnitza side attacked Bulgarian detachments retreating from Ishtip towards Petrich, capturing twenty guns. In retiring from Cavalla, Bulgarians carried off Greek bishop and thirty notables.

[31955] No. 235.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 328.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 11, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 325 of 8th July. Turkey and Bulgaria.

M. Natchevitch arrived yesterday.

Sent to Sophia.)

[31939] No. 236.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 105.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Vienna, July 11, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 204 of 8th July.

I learn from Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs that Turkish Ambassador here has just made similar representation, and that Austrian Minister at Sofia has been instructed to bring wishes of Turkish Government to the notice of the Bulgarian Government in most friendly manner, avoiding all appearance of pressure.

[31863] No. 237.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 140.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 11, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of to-day. Customs &c.

You may act accordingly when your colleagues are similarly instructed.

[31863] No. 238.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

No. 271.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 11, 1913.*

SIR H. BAX-IRONSIDE'S telegram No. 264 of 10th July. Customs regime in occupied territory.

Inform Government to which you are accredited, and suggest that they should instruct their representative at Sophia to act accordingly.

(Repeated to Sophia, No. 139.)

[31591] No. 239.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Morgan.

(No. 318.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, July 11, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 326 of 9th July, last paragraph. Massacre at Smyrna.

Ask Porte to expedite reply.

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* Also to Sir G. Buchanan, No. 316; Sir E. Goschen, No. 257; Sir F. Cartwright (No. 244), and Sir F. Bertie (No. 264).

[31902] No. 240.

Messrs. Francis and Johnson to Foreign Office.—(Received July 11.)

19 *Great Winchester Street, London,*
Sir, *July* 10, 1913.

AS desired by you in your letter of the 30th ultimo we send you under separate cover per parcels post, twelve copies of the French translation of the firman, to each of which is attached a copy of the French translation of the convention and of the "cahier des charges" relating to the Sinaoff or Keshan concession.

We are instructed to enquire whether you wish to be supplied with twelve copies of the contour plan of the concession.

We have sent to Mr. Consul-General Vezey-Brown, Constantinople, already sent you a copy of this plan, and have had a further eleven copies made for your use if necessary.

We are, &c.
FRANCIS AND JOHNSON.

[31907] No. 241.

Keshan Collieries (Limited) at Signal Hill to Foreign Office.—(Received July 14.)

Sir, 5, *Great St. Helens, London, July* 10, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for the use of the Financial Commissioner in Bucharest, all the documents relating to Keshan.

Twelve copies of the Imperial firman granting the exploitation for forty-five years of coal-fields at Keshan to M. Auguste Rivet, French subject, and M. Silvio Sassi, Austro-Hungarian subject, who have contracted by a series of agreements (1899–1903) to transfer the benefit of the concession to the British company the Keshan Collieries (Limited).

With reference to the above I beg to advise you that the total concession is embodied in three firmans, identical in wording, except in so far as they relate to the boundaries and acreage of the three adjoining tracts of country which comprise the coal-fields. All the copies of the two other firmans can be supplied if required, as well as copies of the contracts between the concessionaires and the Keshan Collieries (Limited).

Twelve copies of concession to build an aerial cable and railway from the Keshan coal-fields to the port of Ibridj, granted to M. Auguste Rivet, acting as agent for the Keshan Collieries (Limited).

Twelve copies of contract between the Imperial Ottoman Government and M. Albert Zanardi, commercial manager of the British company the Enos Forest Syndicate, giving M. Albert Zanardi the right to fell timber and manufacture charcoal in the Forest of Enos for a period of five years.

I beg to advise you that this contract is in two parts, relating to the first and second halves of the forest respectively, and that copies of the deed of trust by which M. Albert Zanardi assigns his right to the chairman of the Enos Forest Syndicate (Limited), acting for and on behalf of the syndicate, can be supplied if required.

I have, &c.
D. A. W. ENGLISH, *Secretary.*

Enclosure in No. 241.

Keshan Collieries and Enos Forest Syndicate: Memorandum of Documents.

CONCESSION of Keshan coal-fields to M. Auguste Rivet, French subject, and M. Silvio Sassi, Austro-Hungarian subject, acting as agents of the British company the Keshan Collieries (Limited).

The concession is by three Imperial firmans, identical in wording except in so far as they refer to the boundaries and acreage of the three adjoining tracts of country which comprise the coal-fields. The respective acreages are 4,022 djerbs, 4,696 djerbs, and 837 djerbs.

Are twelve copies of each of the three firmans required?

The concession is transferred from the concessionnaires to the Keshan Collieries (Limited) by a series of contracts.

Are copies of the contracts required?

2. Concession of right to build an aerial cable and railway from the Keshan coal-field to the port of Ibridji, granted to M. Auguste Rivet, acting as agent of the Keshan Collieries (Limited).

3. Concession of right to fell timber and manufacture charcoal in the Enos Forest, granted to M. Albert Zanardi, acting as agent for the British company, Enos Forest Syndicate (Limited).

The concession is in two parts, relating to the first and second halves of the forest.

Are copies required of the contract between the Enos Forest Syndicate (Limited) and M. Zanardi?

[32493] No. 242.

Sir Edward Grey to Earl Granville.

(No. 241.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1913.

THE German Ambassador pressed me to-day that I would try to secure a settlement of the organisation of the southern frontier of Albania before the end of this month, when the *recaution* would be adjourned for the holidays. I undertook to ask the French Government whether they were now ready to give way about Koritza. The Italian Government had communicated in Vienna the idea of a Provisional Government for six months for Albania, and provides that it was agreed that a Prince should be chosen and a permanent Government set up at the end of the six months. It was thought that this might be agreed to.

I said that, if Koritza and St. Jean de Medua went to Albania, it must be understood that the Ægean islands, except those already excepted, were to go to Greece. I would endeavour next week to push things on as far as these lines had indicated. They were the only lines on which I thought that we could come to any settlement before the end of the month.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[32495] No. 243.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 142.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1913.

WITH regard to the protection of minorities the Next Post, Count Mensdorff told me to-day that his Government would accept, instead of the eight points put forward by them the Russian proposal from 'dans le futur traité de paix' down to 'en vigueur,' with the addition of the words 'il est expressément entendu que les garanties impliquent la reconnaissance légale de la nationalité albanaise et le libre usage de la langue albanaise pour l'enseignement scolaire et pour la publication des livres et les publications juridiques.'

I observed that the words 'reconnaissance légale de la nationalité' needed definition, otherwise they might be understood to mean all sorts of things, or autonomy, especially as they were followed by the words 'et' which would imply that the legal recognition of Albanian nationality is not meant the free use of the Albanian language and so forth but something else. If the word 'et' were changed to 'concernant' I thought that perhaps the other words might be accepted.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[32497] No. 244.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright

(No. 143.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1913.

THE Austrian Ambassador told me to-day that he was instructed to inform me of what Count Berchtold had already said to the French Ambassador in Vienna, who had approached him about non-intervention in the present Balkan war. Count Berchtold had said that a declaration of non-intervention under all circumstances would hardly conduce to peace in the Balkans. The Balkan States might attack institutions already settled by European consent.

I remarked that, at the end of the last session, I had said that it would be natural to make non-intervention conditional upon what had been settled by European consent, especially as regards non-interference with the Albanian settlement.

Count Mensdorff went on to say that Count Berchtold had also said that an upheaval in the Near East might conceivably touch some vital interest of Austria-Hungary. It was, therefore, not opportune to bind the hands of the Powers by a declaration. But it was certainly far from Austrian intentions to think in advance of any intervention in the Balkan war.

I am, &c.

E. GREY.

[32494] No. 245.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 105.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1913.

I TOOK an opportunity of mentioning to the Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires to-day the horrible accounts that the Greeks had given of what had been done to certain villages in Bulgarian occupation.

The Chargé d'Affaires said that Kukush and other villages named were practically Bulgarian in nationality and he asked whether it was likely that the Bulgarian army could have done such things to people of Bulgarian nationality? He considered that it was very mean of the Greeks to publish these accounts of Bulgarian misdoings. Bulgaria had plenty of instances during the war of the misdeeds of the other Balkan States; but she had not thought right to wash dirty linen in public, and had kept her information to herself.

I said that, as far as we were concerned, we had made representations only on behalf of Moslems. It was natural for any neutral Power like ourselves, who had many Moslem subjects, to take an interest in the protection of Moslem minorities in the territory that had been abandoned by Turkey. But as to Bulgarian Greek and Servian minorities in this territory we must generally leave them to the protection of their own Governments.

The Chargé d'Affaires said that Bulgaria was the one country where the Turkish element remained. The Turks paid their taxes and were a peaceful element, and Bulgaria had retained more of them than other countries, such as Roumania and Servia.

I am, &c.

E. GREY.

[32498] No. 246.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 106.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 11, 1913.

THE Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires to-day made a protest to me on behalf of his Government against the entirely unwarranted action of Roumania in attacking Bulgaria. He went on to demonstrate how entirely unjustifiable this action was.

I said that Bucharest was the only place at which to protest against this action. I could not intervene, and I did not think that the Great Powers would do so. I had given a warning that if, after the peace with Turkey was made, the Balkan States went

to war with each other, the sympathy and admiration that had been felt for them would be changed into profound disappointment, and I did not think that the Great Powers would intervene to protect any one of them. When the Roumanian Minister had originally announced the intention of his Government to take action to promote the interests of Roumania if the Balkan States went to war with one another I had expressed a general hope that Roumania would not act unnecessarily to the complications, and I would lose no opportunity of using any influence that we could to bring about peace, but this time it would have to be a general peace.

I am, &c.

E. GREY.

[31973] No. 247.

Admiralty to Foreign Office. (*Received July* 12.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July* 11, 1913.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a decypher of a telegram dated the 11th instant, from the Admiralty relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.

W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 247.

Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, July* 11, 1913.

AUSTRIAN admiral will be instructed by his Government to put forward at next sitting of International Commission a proposal to rescind the resolution of 20th May, which forbade flying of Albanian flag on mosques and churches. Secretary Austrian Government have requested you may be similarly instructed stating it is no longer necessary to consider the feelings of Montenegrins. What is your view?

[32101] No. 248.

British American Tobacco Company to Foreign Office. — (*Received July* 12.)

Cecil Chambers, 86 Strand, London,

Sir, *July* 11, 1913.

WE beg to acknowledge receipt of and to thank you for your letter of the 7th instant.

It is our desire, in common with other purchasers of tobacco, that the same facilities should be had with regard to free purchase and export of tobacco throughout the districts which are being ceded by Turkey to the Balkan States, as hitherto, and we shall be glad of any assistance you may be able to give in furtherance of that view.

We are, &c.

(For British-American Tobacco Company (Limited)),

JOSEPH HOOD, *Director.*

[32147] No. 249.

Admiralty to Foreign Office. (*Received July* 12.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July* 12, 1913.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a decypher of a telegram, dated the 11th instant, relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.

W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 249

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty

(Telegraphic.) *July* 11, 1913.

I HAVE received official intimation that military detachments are to relieve Italian and Austrian naval forces here.

[31996] No. 250

Sir H. Rose (Sofia) to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 286.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 11, 1913.

ROUMANIAN troops have landed at Silistria and Samovit. They are expected at Batchik to-night, and probably occupy Varna. Population is fleeing before them.

Bulgarian Government have ordered that no resistance whatever shall be offered.

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[31993] No. 251

Sir F. Bertie (Paris) to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 12.)

[By Post.]

(No. 91.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July* 11, 1913.

YOUR telegram No. 205 of yesterday.

M. Pichon has not received the Russian scheme of reforms which the French Ambassador at St. Petersburgh announces that he is sending by post.

His Excellency will receive the views of the French Government when he has had communication with M. Delcassé's observations on it.

As M. Pichon was ignorant of the purport of the Russian scheme I gave him Sir C. Hardinge's account of it as reported in his telegram No. 251 of the 8th July, and I took care that the German Government is opposed to it as calculated to lead to partition.

[31997] No. 252

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 139.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July* 11, 1913.

IN reply to representations made yesterday, Montenegrin Government have informed Russian Chargé d'Affaires that they are disposed to accept Russian proposal for immediate cessation of hostilities and Conference at St. Petersburgh. But must refer to Belgrade before giving definite answer. French Minister has not had instructions to support Russian representations.

[32152] No. 253

Lord Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 105.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July* 12, 1913.

SOPHIA telegram No. 284 of 10th July.

German Government will send instructions to their representative at Sofia immediately to assist in observations of the points enumerated in identic communication of 30th March.

[32154] No. 254

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 120.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July* 12, 1913.

MY telegram No. 123 of 11th July.

Greek Government have received from the King further accounts of unspeakable Bulgarian atrocities. On the occupation of Serres yesterday bishop and 200 citizens were found with their throats cut, and the Bulgarians destroyed everything in their retreat. Retaliation within the terms of The Hague Convention will be exercised.

Minister for Foreign Affairs says Bulgarians have no right to be regarded as a civilised nation or to have other races subject to them. Greek Government have no desire to prolong the war or to annihilate Bulgaria, but they claim that Bulgaria must admit defeat and sue directly for peace accepting terms of Servia and Greece, and Roumania immediately. He hopes that His Majesty's Government will agree that it is not too much to ask when dealing with treacherous savages.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

[32175] No. 255

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 159.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July* 12, 1913.

BALKAN settlement.

Despatch considerable talk here of the necessity of calling the European congress to settle Balkan affairs. It is observed that purely Russo-Servian war would give rise to much friction, and that it would secure the co-operation of Austria-Hungary, whose Power must be very interested in a settlement in the Near East. Inspired press here is beginning to write in the above sense.

[23156] No. 256

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 171.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July* 12, 1913.

MY Russian colleague tells me that he yesterday spoke to Prime Minister urging immediate cessation of hostilities and Conference.

Prime Minister replied that he was quite prepared to agree. It was not the intention of Servian Government to annex Bulgarian territory, to impose harsh conditions and as regards territory, therefore, they would only demand up to Vardar.

Russian Minister says that Bulgaria must take first step and make overtures by direct negotiation by sending emissary to frontier or through Russian Legations, and this is urgent, to prevent further action by Roumania, and also because cruelties of Greeks, which are many, are likely to be excessive, will grow the longer cessation of hostilities is delayed.

My French colleague supported Russian Minister's representations.

(Sent to Sofia and Bucharest.)

[31797] No. 257

Sir Edward Grey to Consul Toosey.

(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July* 12, 1912.

YOUR telegram of 10th July.

Vice-Consul Campbell should in no circumstances supply information required by Greek consul. Trade by neutral private individuals is quite legitimate subject to risks of stoppage and capture on the high seas by a belligerent warship while they are engaged in it. It might be considered however, to be a breach of neutrality for a public official of a neutral State to supply one belligerent with information of the despatch of contraband goods destined for the other.

[31801] No. 258

Foreign Office to Director of Military Operations.

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Director of Military Operations, and is directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of his communication of the 10th instant, asking whether there is any objection, in the view of Sir E. Grey, to the despatch to Bucharest of an additional military attaché to take note of the mobilisation of the Roumanian army.

Sir A. Nicolson is to state in reply that Sir E. Grey sees no objection to such a course, and that, in view of the declaration of war by Roumania on Bulgaria, which has been reported since Brigadier-General Wilson's letter was written, the presence at Bucharest of an additional military attaché seems now even more desirable than before.

Foreign Office, July 12, 1913.

[32164] No. 259

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 13.)

(No. 110.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July 12, 1913.*

PRIME MINISTER telegraphed last night from front that Servians had been successful all along the line. Bulgarians have been repulsed from Vranja with a loss of 6,000 and were also retreating in disorder from Egri Palanka towards Kustendil.

[32161] No. 260

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 13.)

(No. 331.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 12, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 328 of 11th July.

Grand Vizier informs me that, in consequence of news received by Ottoman Government of change of Cabinet, which he understood to be almost of a revolutionary character, at Sofia, negotiations with M. Natchevitch are suspended.

(Sent to Sofia.)

[32167] No. 261

Sir H. Bax Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 13.)

(No. 27.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 12, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 265 of 10th July.

General Vasoff has been appointed Minister of War and General Savoff has been given command of 4th and 5th divisions.

[32168] No. 262.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 13.)

(No. 272.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 12, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 256 of 7th July.

In the Sobranjé yesterday President of Council stated that Bulgaria has put her case in the hands of Russia, and that meanwhile Government had instructed Bulgarian forces to act on defensive.

Above can only be interpreted as signal weakness.

If Servia and Greece continue their offensive, battle may be anticipated between Kustendil and Radomir, some 35 miles from Sophia.

It is reported that Roumanian troops have arrived at Varna and Widdin.

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[32159] No. 263.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 13.

(No. 98.)
Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 13, 1913.*

ROUMANIAN Government have to-day handed Bulgarian Minister his passports, and he and his staff leave to-morrow, leaving Bulgarian interests in charge of Russian Minister.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[32171] No. 264

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 13.)

No. 108.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 13, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 99 of 9th July. Duties at Scutari.

I have just received a memorandum from German Government, of which following is a translation:—

"Every retention, with consent of Great Powers, of revenues which are pledged to administration of Turkish Public Debt would create a precedence [*sic*] which might be likely to weaken position of Powers as against Balkan States. For this reason Imperial Government would prefer that duties hitherto levied in Scutari should continue to be paid to Ottoman Debt Commission, unless a form could be found which would ensure repayment later to Public Debt." (End of R.)

I understood from Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who told me yesterday that I should receive this memorandum, that he would be satisfied with a very careful form of book keeping and undertaking that the sums in question were really property of Public Debt Commissioners.

[32157] No. 265.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 14.)

(No. 175.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 13, 1913.*

UNDER-SECRETARY of State for Foreign Affairs informs me that Austrian and Italian consuls are [? group omitted] and are endeavouring to incite Albanians to attack Servians in rear. He stated this as one of the reasons why Servian troops have not yet evacuated Oroshi, and he also mentioned that the Albanians have not yet ceded portion of Caza de Mati, which the Powers decided should belong to Servia.

Sent to Admiral at Scutari.

[32173] No. 266.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 15.)

(No. 112.)
Telegraphic.) *Rosaliipo, July 13, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 199 of 8th July.

Italian Government have asked for a report on situation regarding duties at Scutari, but seem disposed to agree to question being settled locally on principle suggested.

[32174] No. 267

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 13.)

(No. 113.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 13, 1913.*

ITALIAN Government have, in the interests of a settlement, instructed their representative at Bucharest to urge Roumanian Government to limit their demands against Bulgaria to Baltchik line, and have instructed their representative at Sophia to urge Bulgarian Government to make this cession.

[32166] No. 268

Sir C. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 13.)

(No. 207.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 13, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 275 of 10th July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs hears from Athens that in addition to insisting on Serres, Drama, and Cavalla, Greeks will ask for war indemnity and for certain guarantees by which Ottoman subjects [illegible] should remain in occupation of territory at present occupied by their troops until peace is definitely concluded. He considers himself fortunate that Bulgaria is too impoverished to go to war, and that Russia is not directly interested in fate of Vardar, for Greeks might be content with Serres and Drama. (End of R.)

Russian Minister at Belgrade telegraphs that Servia will be content with district of Tetovo, Macedonia, and has [illegible] telegraphing to enquire whether this means Servia must accept Vardar as frontier, as it would render settlement difficult were she to claim further territory south of that river.

His strongly Bulgarian Government to consent to guarantees asked for by Greeks, and to cede Kavalla, but [illegible] war. He attributes Bulgarian defeats to the fact that [illegible] had lost their former *élan*, as they were opposed to war with Servia, for whom they had little sympathy, and wanted to be sent home.

[32178] No. 269

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 13.)

(No. 60.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 13, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from absolutely trustworthy eye-witness:

Bulgarians evacuated Serres in panic 5th July after pressure of some twenty Greek notables, and left town surrounded by regulars and others, who shot all [group undecipherable] leaving town by day and fired indiscriminately into town at night. Morning of 11th July Bulgarians brought guns on to the hills dominating town, shelled defenceless town, set on fire. Thousands ran out of the town and the Bulgarians shelled them, killing many.

Many perished in flames.

[32294] No. 270.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 67.)
Sir, *Bucharest, July 4, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the announcement yesterday that King Charles had signed the decree ordering mobilisation was received in Bucharest with every mark of rejoicing. The national flag was at once very much in evidence, crowds paraded the streets, and the Calea Victoriei was blocked to traffic by a dense throng which gathered in front of the palace. The demonstrations of enthusiasm were evidently genuine and spontaneous, and their most striking feature was their anti-Austrian character, for they

seemed to be every bit as much directed against Austria as against Bulgaria. It was indeed, somewhat startling to see [illegible] conspicuously raised in front of King Charles's Palace with such inscriptions as "Down with Austria," "Austria has tricked us." I had known that there has for some time past been a growing feeling of discontent at the attitude of subservience towards Austria, with which King Charles was credited, but I must admit that I was surprised at the explosion of feeling yesterday amongst the populace of the capital when it was known that notwithstanding all the efforts of Austria to keep Roumania quiet, the King had signed the decree for mobilisation.

Pointing the moral of yesterday's demonstrations, the Bucharest newspaper "Universul" of to-day says:

"The demonstrations of yesterday were not merely an honour of the army. They signified something more. They marked the day on which Roumania has explained to the [illegible] Powers of Europe and to which, in the full liberty of action [illegible] has taken up an attitude [illegible] a Great Nation."

I have, &c.
G. BARCLAY.

[32300] No. 271

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 102.)
Sir, *Vienna, July 9, 1913.*

WITH reference to your despatches No. 89 of the 21st April and No. 1 of the 20th May I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a translation of a note which I have received from the Imperial and Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs stating that the Austro-Hungarian Government agree with the views of His Majesty's Government on the subject of the Ottoman fiscal stamps seized by the Greek and Bulgarian authorities in the territories occupied by their troops, and stating that instructions have been sent to the Austro-Hungarian Missions at Athens and Sophia to join in any action taken by the British, French, and German colleagues with a view to preventing any use of the abovementioned fiscal stamps cancelled to the detriment of the bondholders of the Ottoman Public Debt.

I have, &c.
FAIRFAX CARTWRIGHT.

Enclosure in No. 271.

Note communicated to Sir F. Cartwright.

(Translation.)

WITH reference to his *notes verbales* of the 4th and 21st May the undersigned has the honour to inform His Excellency Sir Fairfax Cartwright that the Sublime Porte has also asked the Imperial and Royal Government to intervene with the Greek and Bulgarian Governments with a view to the restitution of the Turkish fiscal stamps deposited by the Imperial Ottoman authorities with the agencies of the Ottoman Bank at Salonica, Drama, and Dedeagatch, and seized by the Greek and Bulgarian authorities occupying those places.

The Imperial and Royal Government share the view of the British Government that these fiscal tokens are as much the property of the Turkish State as cash deposited in a bank by the Ottoman authorities, and that therefore according to the rules of international law in cases of the kind it cannot be denied that the Greek and Bulgarian Governments have the right, in the Turkish territories occupied by their troops, to seize the above-mentioned fiscal stamps as enemy property.

On the other hand, it must be admitted that the Porte is entitled to protest against any misuse or encashing of these tokens in other provinces of the Empire not occupied by the enemy, which would amount to an infringement of their fiscal rights. And it must further be considered that as the proceeds of the revenues from the stamps in the whole of the Ottoman Empire belong to the State incomes mortgaged by the Muharrem Decree to the Ottoman Public Debt, the interests of the State creditors of Turkey would be at least indirectly injured by any illegal use of the confiscated fiscal stamps.

From this point of view the foreign Governments concerned would seem called upon to protect these interests.

The Imperial and Royal Ministers at Athens and Sophia have therefore been instructed to associate themselves with any action which the British, French, and (according to a communication received by the Imperial and Royal Government) the German Ministers in Athens and Sophia may take to move the Greek and Bulgarian Governments to take measures to prevent the wrongful cessation of the tokens in question in the Asiatic provinces of Turkey, whereby the interests of the Ottoman Public Debt might suffer.

The undersigned, &c.

For the Minister),
SONNLEITHNER

Vienna, July 4, 1913.

[32219] No. 272

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 209)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, July 9, 1913.*

FROM the conversations which I have recently had with M. Sazonof I gather that his Excellency was not yet decided on any definite line of policy with a view to bringing about a cessation of hostilities in the Balkans, and that he was therefore inclined to allow events to take their course and to do nothing, unless one or other of the contending parties was threatened with annihilation.

At first the reports which he received from his military agents in the Balkans led him to believe that Bulgarian would be strong enough to cope at the combined armies of Greece and Servia, and, although such a result would have had the advantage, in his eyes, of precluding any danger of an Austrian intervention, he was preoccupied by the idea of Bulgaria becoming too powerful. During the whole of the recent Balkan crisis he has never been altogether absent from his mind. He has repeatedly spoken to me of Bulgaria's ingratitude for the many services which Russia has rendered her, the past of her insatiable greed for territory and of her utter disregard of Russia's wishes and advice. He had, as he told me a few days ago, warned Dr. Daneff, when the latter came to St. Petersburgh last spring, that unless Bulgaria adopted a more reasonable policy, she would find herself confronted by a coalition of Greece, Servia, and Roumania. Dr. Daneff had, however, refused to listen to him, and was now fast bringing his country to the brink of ruin. The course of the war so far had been disastrous for the Bulgarians, and he did not believe that they would be able to retrieve the defeats which they had suffered at the hands of both the Greeks and Servians. The Roumanians who, he now supposed, would not only occupy the territory to which they have a claim to the south of the Dobrudja, but would also cross into Servia so as to give the Servians a helping hand. The position of the Bulgarians was thus a desperate one, and yet, while they were bombarding with appeals for assistance Dr. Daneff still spoke of arbitration on the lines of the Serbo-Bulgarian Treaty, and had even dared to publish in his official organ a statement imputing to the Emperor and the Imperial Government all the responsibility for the present situation. M. Sazonof had in consequence told the Bulgarian Minister at Russia would not move a finger to help them, and that, if they had not mend their ways they might one day find that she had joined the hostile coalition.

While M. Sazonof's attitude has thus become more and more hostile towards Bulgaria, he does not believe that there is any danger of her revenging herself by casting in her lot with Austria. Any loss which Russian influence may sustain at Sofia will, moreover, be counterbalanced by the predominant position which Russia is gradually acquiring for herself at Bucharest. Ever since the mission of the Grand Duke Nicholas Nicolaievitch, to that capital to deliver to King Charles the baton of a field-marshal in the Russian army, M. Sazonof has been assiduously working to detach Roumania from the Triple Alliance. He has, with Bulgaria, it is true, when the question of territorial compensation to be accorded to Roumania was referred to the conference of Ambassadors at St. Petersburgh, but on being confronted with the danger of a war between the allies he made no attempt to exercise a restraining influence at Bucharest. On the contrary, despite his denials, it is certain that M. Serebeko had advised the Roumanian Government to mobilise; there can be but little doubt that he

has indirectly encouraged that Government to intervene. There was, as he himself told me, an exchange of friendly messages between King Charles and the Imperial Government, in which the identity of Russian and Roumanian interests in the present crisis was acknowledged on both sides, and although at the outset the maintenance of peace was the chief interest which M. Sazonof had at heart, the idea of checking Austria in her attempt to bring about an understanding between Roumania and Bulgaria, and at the same time of depriving the latter of all chance of establishing her hegemony in the Balkans, was also present to his mind. Even now that he believes the Bulgarian army to be incapable of holding its own against the Greeks and Serbs he refrains from trying to persuade Roumania to restrict her action to the occupation of the Turtukan-Baltchik line and he speaks with apparent indifference of the possibility of her advancing to Rustchuk in the territory that she will eventually annex. He considers that by disregarding the orders conveyed in the Emperor's telegram to King Ferdinand Bulgaria has released Russia from all her obligations, and he does not look as if he wants her to learn by hard experience the disastrous consequences of such conduct. It is possible that he may exert all his influence to induce Roumania and Servia only to propose moderating terms to Bulgaria but at present he is not disposed to consider the possibility of complications arising from Roumania's active participation in the war. Servia will, he believes, be content with the Vardar as a future frontier, but so long as Austria does not intervene he seems indifferent as to the amount of territory which Bulgaria may eventually have to cede to Servia or Roumania. Indeed, he admits that it is not to Russian interests that the former should return victorious, and that those interests would be best secured by establishing a counterpoise between the various Balkan States.

His apprehensions with regard to an Austrian intervention have been somewhat allayed by a telegram which he has received from the Russian Ambassador at Berlin, reporting that the German Government disapproved of the recent threat of Austria to declare war on the Balkans, and that they had refused to support the Austrian Minister at Bucharest in his efforts to bring about a mediation between Roumania and Bulgaria. The fact M. Sazonof considers also tends to show the existence of certain coolness between Vienna and Berlin.

While the Russian press is unanimous in deploring the fratricidal war on which the Balkan States have embarked, its sympathies are divided, a marked preference is expressed from some quarters for the Slavonic race, while others denounce an unprovoked attack on Austria, which has succeeded in dissipating the dream of a great southern Slavonic state which was on the point of realisation. Austria, it is argued, has once more shown how to convert the Balkan Alliance into a Balkan war, and while in this she considers it necessary for Austrian interests know how to bring that war to a close. Roumania meanwhile has dreamed the dream of the St. Petersburgh conference, and has unsheathed her army for the purpose of conquering new territory at the cost of Slav soil, while the Pope in the *Vatican* looks on contemplating with complacency the Turkish sceptre. Intervention on the part of any of the Great Powers, and the Soviet is almost alone in insisting that Europe must intervene and compel the Balkan States to stop further useless bloodshed.

I have, &c.
GEORGE W. BUCHANAN

P.S., *July 10.* Since writing the above I have had two further conversations with M. Sazonof. In the first which took place early yesterday morning, I asked if a reply to a request for mediation which the Bulgarian Government had addressed to him had been received. He said that the Bulgarian Minister at this Government had declared that they were in the wrong, and that they had better address themselves to Athens and Belgrade and make the best terms that they could. On my representing that the time had come when he might with advantage propose to the Greek and Servian Governments with a view to putting an end to further useless bloodshed, he replied that he did not believe that either Servia or Roumania would accept his mediation at the present moment. He added that it was a matter of indifference to him whether Bulgaria had to cede a little more or a little less territory to Servia and to Roumania, and that it was not to Russian interests that Bulgaria should become too powerful.

In the second conversation which I had with him, his Excellency spoke in quite a different tone. He had, he said, telegraphed to Athens and Belgrade, urging the necessity for cessation of hostilities and the conclusion of an armistice, and from the answers which he had received from the latter capital he believed that the Serbs would make no difficulties. The Bulgarians would, of course, as he had told M. Bobaref, have to pay the costs of the war, but he was ready to

constitute the future Serbo-Bulgarian frontier His Excellency did not explain what had led him to take such a different view of the situation beyond saying that the Bulgarians had behaved so abominably that he had naturally become pro-Roumanian. He did not however, wish to see Roumania push matters to extremities, and he now hoped that the Prime Ministers of the four Balkan States would, after all, come to St. Petersburgh

G W B

[32421] No. 273

M. Ramsay to Mr Maxwell.—(Received July 14.)

Treasury, July 10, 1913.

Dear Maxwell,

I ENCLOSE herewith a copy of a letter from Paul Harvey which explains itself and his memorandum is original I also send a note on the only point where we noted Would you kindly let us have it back as soon as possible, and pass it on to Lamb with any corrections or suggestions you may wish to make

I shall be very grateful if you can let me have a copy of the French memorandum in its amended form as I have not got a copy of it.

Yours very truly,

MALCOLM G LAMSA)

P.S. On looking at the point about the years of 1884 and 1885 it perhaps may be well that we should see what they say about the point

M G L

Enclosure 1 in No. 27

Note by Mr Ramsay

I like very Treasury observations on the annexed memorandum, which has been revised relates to the date of the Porte's default

The Porte ceased to make payment of the sinking fund in 1875 It then got into arrear with interest, and ceased to provide anything (beyond the Egyptian tribute) in 1878.

The proposal to appropriate the Cyprus "excedent" to the service of the loan was first mooted by Great Britain in 1880, but not finally adopted till 1882, when the whole of the "excedent" for the period from 1st April 1879 (less certain sums taken in repayment of advances made to Turkey for the Suter and Synge ransom) was so appropriated

It would then perhaps be better to count on 1880 in the last paragraph of page 1 and to insert at top of page 2 words to indicate that the appropriation took powers from April 1879

Treasury, July 10, 1913.

Enclosure 2 in No. 273.

Sir I Harvey to Mr Ramsay

Paris, July 2, 1913

Dear Ramsay,

The French delegate on the Council of the Ottoman Debt has put into the commission a memorandum giving the Debts view of the Cyprus tribute question which makes it necessary that I should put in likewise a memorandum from our point of view

I enclose a draft which I should be much obliged if you would look through If the Treasury concur would you kindly pass it to Mr Maxwell and ask him to return it to me as soon as possible with any corrections it may be desired to make

There is a small point outstanding on which I think I should be enlightened The Servians ask why it is that the service of the loans of 1891 and 1894 is made a charge on the Egyptian tribute prior to that of the loan of 1855 which is chronologically anterior to them.

The loan of 1891 was apparently for the purpose of converting the loan of 1877, which in turn replaced that of 1854 There is accordingly good ground for giving it priority over that of 1855. But the loan of 1894 is I gather in part a loan in substitution of that of 1871, which was guaranteed on the Egyptian tribute, presumably after that of 1855 Its claim to pass before the latter is therefore more doubtful.

Yours sincerely

H P HARVEY

[32410] No. 274

M Plamenatz to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 11.)

Royal Montenegrin Legation, London, July 12, 1913.

Your Excellency

I HAVE the honour to forward you herewith a copy of the text of the communication which His Majesty's Government of Montenegro has just sent to the representatives of the Great Powers, relative to the evacuation of Albania by them, copy as I received it from the Powers

Trusting you will kindly cause an acknowledgement of the enclosed to be sent me I have &c

L VOINOVITCH

Enclosure in No. 274.

Note communicated to Representatives of Great Powers by Montenegrin Government.

LE Gouvernement Royal, à la suite de certains bruits courant pour but de faire croire que le Monténégro n'a pas à intention d'évacuer l'Albanie tient à témoigner à votre Excellence les faits suivants, avec la prière de vouloir bien les communiquer à votre Gouvernement, si possible par la voie la plus courte :—

Le Monténégro, par dépêche en date du 2 avril (v.s.), informait Sir Edward Grey Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de la Grande-Bretagne qu'il remettait le sort de la ville de Scutari entre les mains des Grandes Puissances de l'Europe, et ce à la passation du traité de Londres.

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Le Monténégro, par dépê

[32416] No. 275.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 14.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 14, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram, dated the 13th instant, from Vice-Admiral Burney relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.

W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 275.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *July 13, 1913.*

COMMISSION arrived at decision of 20th May, re fly ing Albanian flag on public buildings because consuls could this flag should not be flown on these buildings while territorial flags were flying on consulates. Churches regarded as public buildings in this connection.

Consuls permission grant some time for fly ing of Albanian flag on private buildings and private houses, hence not a question of presence of Montenegrins.

Would wish to regard churches as public buildings if desired.

[32429] No. 276.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 14.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 14, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram, dated the 14th instant, from Vice-Admiral Burney relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.

W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 276.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *July 14, 1913.*

PETITION received from chiefs and notables of Albanian residents in Scutari. They wish telegraphed to Commission praying them not to delay a settlement of Government of Albania by waiting for end of present Balkan war, in which Albania is not concerned, or for delimitation of frontier.

[32874] No. 277.

Papers communicated by Count Benckendorff, July 14, 1913.

(1.)

(Confidentielle.)

EN date du 12 juillet, M. Daneff mande que l'on revient que M. Venizelos s'est exprimé confidentiellement au sujet de la proposition russe de la manière suivante: Il regrette les termes de cette proposition, peu en harmonie avec l'esprit de conciliation dont a été empreint l'attitude grecque jusqu'à la dernière limite. La proposition fournit à la Bulgarie les moyens de reorganiser ses forces au cours de négociations

entamées sans garanties préalables. La Grèce ne peut y consentir. L'armistice doit être signé sur le théâtre de la guerre et accompagné d'un protocole, fixant en termes généraux les frontières, en attribuant à la Grèce Serès, Drama et Kavalla, points occupés par les forces grecques, en lui assurant une contribution de guerre, des garanties pour les populations grecques de la Thrace et la démobilisation immédiate de l'armée bulgare. Pour la conclusion de la paix M. Vénizelos est prêt à se rendre à Saint-Pétersbourg.

(2.)

(Confidentielle.)

M. Sazonof télégraphie en date du 12 juillet aux Ambassadeurs de Russie à Londres et Paris:—

"Des conseils de sagesse de la part des Cabinets de Londres et de Paris à Athènes nous paraissent très désirables. Les exigences grecques nous semblent exagérées. Il serait dans l'opinion du Gouvernement Impérial insensé de conserver à la Bulgarie le fût-ce que la partie occidentale de Macédoine, la vallée de la Struma et même Serès. De même, nous ne saurions approuver les prétentions grecques sur Kavalla et Drama, mais nous avons d'ailleurs beaucoup de peine à penser que l'Autriche et ses Alliés s'y opposeraient de leur côté.

Les deux Cabinets pourraient peut-être faire observer que les questions insulaires et de la délimitation du littoral de l'Asie Mineure n'ont pas encore été posées et qu'elles doivent être prises en considération."

(3.)

(Confidentielle.)

M. Sazonof télégraphie au Ministre de Russie à Sofia en date du 12 juillet que la mise au représentant bulgare à Saint-Pétersbourg de la copie du télégramme de M. Daneff. M. Tontchef a répondu qu'il pensait que la Bulgarie serait à la rigueur consentir à la démobilisation de son armée et à la continuation de l'occupation des territoires jusqu'à la conclusion de la paix. M. Neklioudof est chargé de s'informer à ce sujet des vues de M. Daneff.

(4.)

(Confidentielle.)

M. Sazonof télégraphie à Belgrade et à Sophia en date du 13 juillet:—

"Le résumé des propositions concrètes qui pourraient servir de base à l'armistice serait le suivant:

"1. La frontière bulgaro-serbe s'étendrait le long de la côte orientale du lac de Dorian, le partage des eaux du Vardar, laissant le tout à la Serbie.

2. Les frontières serbo-grecques seraient contiguës à Gheygheli et la frontière grecque s'étendrait à l'ouest jusqu'à la ville de Strumnitza, cette ville et Serès pour la Grèce."

(5.)

(Confidentielle.)

M. Sazonof télégraphie en date du 13 juillet à Bucarest:—

"Il importerait que la Roumanie ne conclût pas d'arrangement séparé et à part avec la Bulgarie, ce qui laisserait à cette dernière main libre contre la Serbie et la Grèce, peut-être avec l'appui d'autres Puissances.

"Le Cabinet de Sophia nous a donné plein pouvoir de régler son différend avec la Roumanie sur la base de concessions territoriales indiquées par nous.

"M. Chebeko est chargé d'informer le Gouvernement roumain que le Cabinet impérial peut lui assurer la ligne Tourtoukai-Baltchik en échange de la cession actuelle aux conditions suivantes: (1.) La Roumanie n'occupera pas de territoires au nord de la ligne Tourtoukai-Baltchik. (2.) L'établissement d'une solidarité entre la Russie et la Roumanie dans le but d'amener la pacification dans les Balkans le plus tôt possible. (3.) En conséquence du point précédent le Cabinet roumain emploiera son influence à Athènes et à Belgrade pour que les Gouvernements grec et serbe acceptent au plus tôt les conditions énoncées à deux points dans son télégramme du 12 juillet."

"Il importerait de signaler aux Gouvernements grec et serbe que s'ils insistaient sur des exigences dépassant les lignes proposées, la Russie et peut-être d'autres Puissances auraient à se poser la question si des exigences ultérieures sont admissibles, attendu que le point le plus important est d'éviter toute occasion d'ingérence active étrangère."

[32368] No. 278

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 334.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 13, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 327 of 11th July.

Although Grand Vizier yesterday repeated to me his assurance that there is no intention of exacting more than evacuation of territory up to Enos-Midia line, military preparations seem excessive for that object and there are indications that extreme cavalry and military elements in the Committee are desirous of transgressing new frontier agreed upon in London. To-day's papers publish Imperial irade addressed to Commander-in-Chief, directing him to occupy territories belonging to Ottoman Empire without specifying straight line from Enos to Midia and civilian officials are warned for return to the [illegible] Southern Thrace some of which appear to extend beyond that line.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[32304] No. 279

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

No. 276.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 13, 1913.*

"CHEF de cabinet" has just called to inform me that the Bulgarian Government have received information through the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople that the Turkish army is advancing slowly northwards with the intention of retaking Adrianople.

He was instructed by the King of the Bulgarians to request me to bring this to the notice of His Majesty's Government with a view to their advising the Ottoman Government to confine themselves within the limits of the preliminary treaty signed at London.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[32196] No. 280.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 274.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 13, 1913.*

CONSTANTINOPLE telegram No. 331 of 12th July.

Report of change of Cabinet is unfounded.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

[32197] No. 281.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 275. Very Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 13, 1913.*

POSITION of King of the Bulgarians is much shaken. Should Sophia be taken he would retire to Philippopoli, and probably abdicate in favour of the Crown Prince.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[32198] No. 282

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 276.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 13, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 272 of 12th July.

"Chef de cabinet informs me that there have been no serious engagements with Servians during the last two days, but severe fighting with the Greeks round Serres, which has been taken and retaken twice and is now in possession of Bulgarians."

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[32440] No. 283.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 278.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 14, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 276 of 13th July.

Vice-consul at Varna reports that Roumanian troops arrived at Baltchik and are said to be advancing on Pravadia in order to cut Varna-Sophia Railway.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[32332] No. 284

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 99.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 14, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 95 of 11th July, final sentence.

I hear that Minister for Foreign Affairs now says that the French Minister misunderstood him, and that Roumania will not be content merely with the knowledge that the Balkan States have come to an agreement.

His Excellency's view is that Roumania is now a belligerent and she intends, therefore, to insist on being a party not only to the treaty of peace but also to the peace preliminaries.

First paragraph of above is very confidential.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[32439] No. 285

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 100.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 14, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from military attaché for Director of Military Operations:—

"Prince Ferdinand and the Chief of Staff, General Averesco, left Bucharest last night. Destination not stated, but probably Craiova. No official information is being given, but concentration unlikely to be completed before 20th July. Indications point to Gorabia as being centre of main concentration area."

(Sent to Sophia.)

32431] No. 286.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 176.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 14, 1913.*

THE Prime Minister confirmed to me this morning the information given me by the Russian Minister that Servia is prepared to come to terms with Bulgaria if the latter will make overtures (see my telegram No. 174 of 12th July). He said, however, that the Servian military authorities consider it necessary to demand up to line of Strumnitza. The sooner Bulgaria make up her mind to approach Servia the better, as with delay it would become increasingly difficult to moderate military and public opinion here. He had heard that the Bulgarian Government had already presented to the Russian Government their willingness to make concessions.

He did not apprehend difficulties on the part of Greece. The Greek Prime Minister was expected here shortly and therefore if Bulgaria would only take necessary step peace preliminaries could be concluded in a day.

(Sent to Sophia and Bucharest.)

[32316] No. 287.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 62.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 14, 1913.*

THE GREEK Prime Minister arrived morning of 13th July, at once left for Haji beylik, near Demir Hissar to see the King of Greece.

(Above sent to Athens.)

[32507] No. 288.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Rax-Inglis.

(No. 144.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

REPORTS have been communicated to us by the Greek Government as to unexampled atrocities committed by the Bulgarian troops at Demir Hissar and Seres on innocent inhabitants of both sexes. The reports as to what occurred at Seres have been largely confirmed to us by independent eye-witness. You should inform the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the most painful impression which has been caused here by these reports which have every appearance of authenticity. You should add that a very grave responsibility will rest on the Bulgarian Government unless they are able to prove the severest condemnation of such acts. The acts which have been reported are of a nature which no civilised nation should for one moment pass over in silence or regard with indifference.

(Repeated to Paris, No. 274, Berlin, No. 264, Constantinople, No. 324, Rome, No. 208, St. Petersburgh, No. 522, Vienna, No. 213, for information only.)

[32498] No. 289.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir G. Buchanan.**

(No. 523.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

THE *reunion* has now been sitting practically continuously since last autumn. After this month it must adjourn for the holidays, but it is most desirable to accomplish before it adjourns a settlement for the provisional administration of Albania and for the delimitation of its southern frontier.

It is becoming dangerous to leave these questions unsettled and an agreement about them would contribute materially to the stability of the Great Powers in face of new complications arising out of the Balkan war.

* Also to Sir F. Bertie (No. 275).

I propose to ask for agreement to the selection of a Prince for Albania within a fixed limit of time, and that meanwhile the control of the administration of Albania should be entrusted temporarily to an international commission which should at the end of the fixed time report as to permanent organisation of the Government including how the control and guarantee of the Powers is to be preserved. Six months is the first time suggested within which Prince should be chosen, but provisional administration could probably be renewed for a time, if necessary at expiration of six months.

If it is agreed that Greece and Servia should be allowed to form a conterminous frontier in Macedonia, and that the islands (except Tenedos, Imbros, and Thasos) where the population is preponderantly Greek should go to Greece, then an international commission should be agreed upon to delimit the south and south-eastern frontier of Albania, subject to the condition that Koritza and Stylos should be included in Albania.

After having consulted French and Russian Ambassadors this afternoon, I propose to bring forward proposal for provisional organisation of Albania to-morrow.

I should like to have views of Minister for Foreign Affairs about provisional southern frontier as soon as possible, and on deferring any proposal about it to-morrow.

[30188] No. 290.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 437.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copies of correspondence relative to the disposal by the International Financial Commission at Athens of the sums retained and used by His Majesty's and the French and Russian Governments in favour of the Civil List of His late Majesty King George of Greece, under the Treaty of the 29th March, 1864.†

I am disposed to concur in the view set forth in the Treasury letter of the 30th ultimo, to the effect that the arrangement made was clearly personal to His late Majesty and expired automatically on his death, so that the obligation of the Greek Government under the engagement taken by them in 1880 revived at the same moment, and I am prepared to furnish the British delegate on the Commission with instructions to make a declaration in this sense.

I recognise, however, that the present is not a favourable moment for making further demands on Greece in view of the temporary financial embarrassment from which she is suffering as the result of the war, and I would therefore propose to refrain from insisting on the immediate resumption by the Greek Government of their obligation and to allow the sums due under it to accumulate for a short period say two or three years, i.e. the country is had time to turn its new acquisitions of territory to account, and that the re-establishment of financial equilibrium has enabled it to meet its liabilities without embarrassment.

Your Excellency should bring the above considerations to the notice of the French Government and enquire their views on this question.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[32872] No. 291.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.‡

(No. 144.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

I SAW the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors this afternoon, and explained to them what I meant to propose about a provisional Government for Albania at the *reunion* to-morrow.

They agreed that the matter was greatly one of a form of words. The Austrian Government objected strongly to the phrase "provisional Government."

* Also to Sir G. Buchanan (No. 249), *mutatis mutandis*.
† Sir F. Elliot (No. 68), April 7, to Treasury April 28, and Treasury June 30, 1913.
‡ Also to Sir R. Rodd, No. 177.

I said that this phrase was not necessary, we might use some such words as "provision for the administration temporarily of Albania."

I then told them that I was consulting the French and Russian Governments as to an agreement about the southern frontier of Albania, i.e. all the part concerning which no agreement had yet been reached. Hitherto the great difficulty had been that, unless Koritza went to Greece or Servia, these two countries could have no conterminous frontier in the event of the carrying out of the treaty between Bulgaria and Servia, which apparently gave Bulgaria Monastir and the territory up to Ochrida. But this treaty had now been knocked to pieces by the present war. If, therefore, it was agreed that Greece and Servia were to be allowed to form a conterminous frontier in Macedonia, I thought that Koritza and Styles might be given to Albania, and a commission might be appointed to delimit the boundary subject to this condition.

The Ambassadors asked how the division of Macedonia was to be made. Was Russia going to make it or was it going to be referred to the Powers? They reminded me that the Italian and Austrian Governments had, in January last, expressly reserved their right to give their consent to the totality of the arrangements come to. The Italian Ambassador especially was alarmed at the amount of territory which Greece would apparently now obtain and the strength that she would acquire as a naval Power. They both said that Greece and Servia when they joined hands would be disagreeable neighbours for Albania.

I said that surely it was impossible to interfere after what had happened in the present war, the settlement of the Bulgarian treaty with Servia; and, unless this was left, Greece and Servia must have conterminous frontier.

The Ambassadors did not dispute this point, though they evidently considered it disagreeable.

As to the general division of territory, I said that I thought it would very likely be settled by Greece and Servia imposing their own conditions on Bulgaria and it had hitherto been assumed that the division of the territory ceded by Turkey, with the exception of Albania, the islands and places near Constantinople was a matter that should be left to the Balkan States.

The Ambassadors repeated that their Governments had reserved their right to give their consent to the totality of the arrangements when the latter were made.

The Italian Ambassador urged that the amount of territory that Greece was now obtaining would make some difference with regard to the islands.

I asked him not to reopen the question of the islands going to Greece with the exception of Tenedos, Imbros and Thasos.

He said that there were certain small islands, now occupied by Italy, which were very close to the coast, and he thought should be made exceptions.

I again pressed him not to introduce a new point about the islands.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[30642] No. 292

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Rumbold-Ironside.**

(No. 134.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 91 of the 23rd June, I transmit to you herewith copies of further letters from the British American Tobacco Company (Limited),† complaining of damage to their interests through the action of the Bulgarian and Greek authorities and troops in the occupied districts of European Turkey.

It is difficult in the present fluctuating condition of affairs in the Balkan Peninsula, to know to which Government remonstrances should be addressed regarding complaints emanating from any particular district, but you should endeavour to ascertain from His Majesty's consular officers concerned whether the statements contained in these letters as to the proceedings of the Bulgarian authorities are well-founded, and if so, you should make a representation to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense desired by the company.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

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* Also to Sir F. Elliot, No. 76, *mutatis mutandis*.
† Part IX. No. 361 and No. 367.

[32873] No. 293.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Rodd.**

(No. 178.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

I INFORMED the Italian and Austrian Ambassadors, when I saw them to-day, of the confirmation we had had of the outrages committed by Bulgarians at Serres and of the instruction I had sent to the British Minister in Sophia.

I also informed the French and Russian Ambassadors, when I saw them to-day, in the same way.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[31902] No. 294

Sir Edward Grey to Delegates to Balkan Financial Commission.

(No. 6.)
Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter from Messrs. Francis and Johnson,‡ enclosing twelve copies of documents connected with the Société d'Iron Ore Concessions for use on the sub-committee of the Balkan Financial Commission on concessions and contracts in the ceded territories.

I have to request you to inform me if you require in addition, twelve copies of the contour plan of the concession mentioned in the second paragraph of this letter.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[31907] No. 295

Sir Edward Grey to Delegates to Balkan Financial Commission.

(No. 7.)
Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter from the Keshan Collieries Limited,§ enclosing twelve copies of documents connected with their concession and that of the Enos Forest Syndicate (Limited) for use on the sub-committee of the Balkan Financial Commission on concessions and contracts in the ceded territories.

I have to request you to inform me if you will require in addition, twelve copies of the two remaining firmans which, as you will observe, are identical in form with that enclosed, or of the contracts treated of under headings (1) and (3) of the "memorandum of documents" forwarded in the company's letter.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[32421] No. 296.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 14, 1913.*

WITH reference to Mr. Read's letter of the 9th instant relative to the disposal of the balance of the excess Cyprus revenues, I am directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to transmit to you herewith copy of a private letter from Mr. Ramsay of the Treasury to Mr. Maxwell of this Office, forwarding copies of a letter and memorandum from the British delegate on the Balkan Financial Commission and of a note by the Treasury on the memorandum in question.§

* Also to Sir F. Cartwright (No. 145), Sir F. Bertie (No. 449), and Sir G. Buchanan (No. 258).
† No. 240.
‡ No. 241.
§ Mr. Ramsay to Mr. Maxwell, July 10, 1913. Sir F. Harvey to Mr. Ramsay, July 2, 1913. Memorandum and Treasury Note.

As regards the point raised in the last two paragraphs of Sir P. Harvey's letter, I am to transmit copy of a memorandum prepared in this Department in 1896, from which it appears that all the loans secured on the Egyptian tribute are on a footing of equality.

I am to state that, before furnishing Sir P. Harvey with any instructions on this subject Sir E. Grey would be glad to receive any observations which Mr. Secretary Harcourt may desire to offer on the enclosed papers, and I am to ask that, in view of the urgency of the matter, these may be furnished as soon as may be possible.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

Enclosure in No. 296.

Memorandum by Mr. Oakes respecting the Turkish Guaranteed Loan of 1855.

THE only arrangement under which 72,000*l.* of the Egyptian tribute is paid annually on account of the 1855 Ottoman Guaranteed Loan, seems to be the convention of 1855, in which it is stated that, besides other securities, the interest and sinking fund of the said loan shall form a charge "specially on the annual amount of the tribute of Egypt which remains over and above the part thereof appropriated to the first loan," that is to say, the loans of 1854.

The amount appropriated to the loan of 1854 was 210,000*l.* The total tribute then was 282,000*l.* The balance secured to the loan of 1855 was, therefore, 72,000*l.*

The whole of this tribute of 282,000*l.* appears to have been paid into the Bank of England up to October 1875, but it does not appear under what arrangement this was done. (See memorandum of the 4th January, 1885, Sir E. Hertslet, Confidential [5108] p. 7.) It would seem, however, to have had its origin at the time when the 1854 loan was raised. In 1877, when this 1854 loan was reconstituted by agreement between the Porte and Messrs. Palmer and Bouverie, it was arranged in that agreement (see Confidential [3849] p. 182) that the Khedive should remit a reduced amount to the bank on account of the service of the 1854 loan, namely, 99,511*l.*, "at the dates and by the instalments set forth in the first and second columns of the schedule hereto, the remittances set forth in the third column of that schedule being those which are to be made to the Bank of England in respect of the Turkish Guaranteed Loan of 1855."

This third column consisted of various sums payable at different dates, the total of which amounted to 72,000*l.*

This is an admission of the liability of the tribute to the extent of 72,000*l.* in respect of the guaranteed loan.

The Egyptian tribute was afterwards augmented to 681,620*l.* and later (by the Zeila tribute) to 681,872*l.*

The following are the loans now secured on the Egyptian tribute —

1. *The Loan of* 1891.

This was originally the Turkish "Defence" Loan of 1877, and was converted in 1891. The Khedive has by engagement, dated 20th March, 1891, undertaken to pay annually to Messrs. Rothschild 280,622*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* for its service. ("Burdett's Official Intelligence, 1895.")

2. *The Loan of* 1894.

This now comprises the loans of 1854 and 1871, which were amalgamated and reconstructed in 1894. The Khedive has undertaken to pay to the Bank of England the annual sum of 329,249*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for the service of this loan. (See "Burdett, 1895.")

3. *The Guaranteed Loan of* 1855.

This loan is secured on the Egyptian tribute to the extent of the balance available in 1855, viz. 72,000*l.*

These three sums together make a total of 681,872*l.* 4*s.* 8*d.*, or the full amount of the tribute.

As the several sums are specially named as hypothecated to the several loans, there would seem to be no obstacle to the 72,000*l.* being applied to the service of a

fresh loan in the event of the 1855 loan being paid off and no consent of any other Government would seem to be necessary for this purpose.

Sir E. Hertslet's memorandum of 5th January, 1895, on the tribute loans, which goes into this question, is sent herewith (Confidential [5108], p. 7).

A. H. OAKES.

May 5, 1896.

[31902] No. 297.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Francis and Johnson.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July* 14, 1913.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, forwarding twelve copies of documents connected with the Samakof Iron Ore Concession for use in the sub-committee of the Balkan Financial Commission on concessions and contracts in the ceded territories.

I am to state that Sir E. Grey has requested the British delegates on the Commission to inform him if they will require in addition twelve copies of the contour map mentioned in the second paragraph of your letter.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[31907] No. 298.

Foreign Office to Keeton, Chalcraft, Lumley.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July* 14, 1913.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, enclosing twelve copies of documents connected with your concession and that of the Eros Forest Syndicate Limited, for use in the sub-committee of the Balkan Financial Commission on concessions and contracts in the ceded territories.

I am to state that Sir E. Grey has requested the British delegates on the commission to inform him if they will require in addition, twelve copies of the remaining firmans alluded to in each of the contracts mentioned under headings (1) and (3) of the "memorandum of documents" forwarded in your letter.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[30642] No. 299.

Foreign Office to British-American Tobacco Company.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 14, 1913.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 27th ultimo and the 3rd instant, regarding the damage done to the interests of your company through the action of the Bulgarian and Greek authorities and troops in the occupied districts of European Turkey.

It is difficult, in the present fluctuating condition of affairs in the Balkan Peninsula, to know to which Government remonstrances should be addressed regarding complaints emanating from any particular district. Sir E. Grey has, however, instructed His Majesty's Ministers at Sophia and Athens to conduct enquiries, through His Majesty's consular officers concerned, as to the facts stated in your letters under reply, and, if necessary, to make representations to the Governments to which they are respectively accredited in the sense desired by your company.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[32582] No. 300.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 594.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 6, 1913*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 574 of the 2nd July, I have the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's consul-general at Salonica on the subject of the landing of Russian troops at Mount Athos.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M MARLING

Enclosure in No. 300

Consul-General Lamb to Sir G Lowther

(No. 77.)

Sir, *Salonica, June 23, 1913*

WITH reference to my telegraphic preceding despatch of yesterday's date I have to inform you that according to information derived from official Greek sources, only a small portion of the troops (estimated at from 150 to 200 men) conveyed by the Russian steamer from Constantinople to Mount Athos were actually landed at the monastery of St Pantaleon, the remainder having been transferred to the Russian station-ship 'Chaetz' (?) which was lying off the coast. What truth there is in the previously given, which was derived from an eye-witness on board the steamer is correct I am at present unable to assert.

The Greek authorities appear to have entered a formal protest against the landing, not recognising their inability to maintain it without support as also the fact that their own action in placing a military guard at the convent "to preserve order" amongst the quarrelling monks itself provided the Russians with the pretext and opportunity for such a landing. Whether however a gunboat and a hundred or more regular troops is not an excessive force for the purpose alleged is a question that may well be asked, in view of the fact that the controversy over the doctrine of the Saviour's name appears to have calmed down after the departure of the hierarch Anthony Bulatovitch for Russia and the decisions of the Oecumenical Patriarchate and the Holy Synod condemning the movement and the suspicion expressed by the Greeks that some religious object other than that of preventing the monks from tearing each other's faces (as behind the reasons now taken may very well be justified).

Nevertheless and that a considerable difference of opinion exists to the treatment of the question has existed between the Russian Embassy at Constantinople and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the former having advocated the policy of active repression from the first, and having indeed issued instructions for the arrest and conveyance to Russia of Bulatovitch, whilst the Ministry on the other hand feared to augment his influence and importance by investing him with the halo of martyrdom which he appeared to seek. It would now seem that the apparent moderation of St. Petersburgh merely covered a more far-reaching design, and that while maintaining, as regards the Russian public, the importance of the theological controversy, they at the same time determined to assert, *vis-à-vis* of the outer world, as the means of establishing their material hold upon the Holy Peninsula.

The Slavs on Mount Athos, though occupying only three out of the twenty establishments officially recognised as "monasteries," are already numerically equal to the Greeks, and control a large number of Skétes and Kellia, some of which are quite as important as the minor monasteries. The material resources of which they dispose are probably more important than those of the Greeks.

I have, &c.

HARRY H. LAMB

[32584] No. 301

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 597.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 7, 1913*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of an identic note *verbale*, which the foreign missions are addressing to the Imperial Ministry for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of mines in the Gulf of Smyrna.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M MARLING

Enclosure in No. 301

Identic Note verbale

LA rade de Smyrne a été récemment le théatre de trois catastrophes successives dues à l'explosion de torpilles, lesquelles, tant par les ravages matériels que par la perte de nombreuses vies humaines qu'elles ont occasionnées, ont provoqué une émotion bien légitime.

En présence de l'extrême insuffisance des mesures de protection offertes à la navigation par les autorités locales l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique se voit dans l'obligation de demander au Gouvernement Impérial, vu la cessation virtuelle des hostilités, de faire procéder sans délai à l'enlèvement de toutes les torpilles et des épaves coulées, afin de rendre, au port de Smyrne toute la sécurité à laquelle tant le commerce que le public ont le droit de s'attendre.

Constantinople, le 6 juillet 1913.

[32594] No. 302

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 608.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 10, 1913*

IN my despatch No. 597 of the 7th instant I had the honour to transmit to you copy of a *note verbale identique*, dated that day, which has been addressed to the Sublime Porte, asking that in view of the virtual cessation of hostilities immediate steps might be taken to remove all mines from Smyrna harbour.

The subject of the removal of these mines has occupied the attention of His Majesty's late Ambassador practically since the disasters to the 'Senegal' and 'Nevada,' and his Excellency repeatedly brought the matter to the attention of the Grand Vizier and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who replied that the necessary steps were being taken to secure the safety of navigation.

On the 26th May a circular *note verbale* was addressed by the Sublime Porte to the representatives of all foreign Powers in Constantinople, stating that a second pilot-boat had been detailed to conduct vessels through the danger zone.

This official note was supplemented by verbal assurances that the mines would be removed, and it was hoped that news would soon be received from Smyrna stating that this had actually been done. The Grand Vizier, in conversation with me recently, stated that orders had actually been given for the removal of the mines.

On the 6th instant, however, I received a telegram from His Majesty's consul-general, informing me that the commodore stated that he had received instructions only to prepare for the removal of the mines, and that he intended only to remove the inner mines opposite the fortress.

It was in view of this unsatisfactory state of affairs, and of the fact that another accident had occurred, resulting in the loss of an Italian sailing ship, that the above-mentioned identic note was addressed to the Porte.

I take this opportunity of forwarding to you copy of a despatch from Mr Consul-General Barnham in reply to a communication forwarded to him by Sir Gerard Lowther from the Khedivial Mail Steamship Company.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING

Enclosure 1 in No. 302

Consul-General Barnham to Sir C. Louther

(No. 50. Confidential.)

Smyrna, June 20, 1913.

Sir,

IN reply to your Excellency's despatch No. 17 of the 13th instant I have the honour to return, as requested, the letter, an original, addressed by the commander of the steamship "Ismailia," of the Khedivial Mail Steamship Company, to their Constantinople agency, and to offer the following observations —

The first paragraph of the letter is too sweeping in that the Turkish Government usually gives notices as regards the placing of buoys and mines. It has of course omitted to do so on some important occasions.

The second paragraph calls for no comment until the sentence "From the 16th April." The commander has here confused the facts.

What happened was this. On the 16th April two buoys were placed on the Smyrna side of the fort (as it is supposed mines as well, though no notice was given of either until forty-eight hours later a circular said 'ships are to pass between the two buoys,' and a small steamer acted as pilot to take the vessels through from the 18th April. This pilot service was discontinued a few days later. Further the buoys which had been placed on the 18th April, at the same time as the supposed mines, were also removed later and have never been replaced.

On a complaint being made that the buoys had been removed without notice, a circular was then sent round.

A few days only previous to the blowing up of the steamship "Senegal" (21st May) some more contact mines were laid, but on the opposite side of the fortress.

The first sentence of the penultimate paragraph of the commander's letter is only correct if it applies to the new system of the two pilot steamers, introduced since the 'Nevada' disaster (21th May). According to the actual practice, outward bound steamers proceeding now to near the fort Sanjik Kalessi are there piloted through the short mined passage, at the end of which the pilot-boat leaves them. Then they proceed unpiloted to the second mine-field (1½ miles distant), through which they are piloted, and on this they have completely passed the mined zone.

The last paragraph of the commander's letter is incorrect, in so far as the 'Sénégal' struck on mines that had only just been laid, and of which no notice had been given, nor were buoys fixed to mark its limits.

With regard to the larger question of the mines themselves, it is a matter of the utmost urgency that the mines should be removed without any further delay.

Their presence, in view of the incompetency shown by the Turkish authorities, is undoubtedly doing harm to import and export as well as to passenger traffic, and there appears to be no adequate justification for the uncalled-for temporising of the Ottoman Government in their removal.

On Monday last, 16th June, the Commodore Hikmet Bey, to whose failure to give notice as to the placing of mines, &c., must be attributed the whole responsibility of the 'Senégal' and 'Nevada' disasters, informed steamship agents that he had received orders to remove the mines, but was waiting for the wind to drop.

On Wednesday he stated he had received counter-orders to the effect that the mines were not to be touched.

On Thursday he left, being called to Constantinople, and we seem as far as ever from the day when the mines are to be raised.

I would respectfully beg your Excellency to urge on the Ottoman Government the pressing need of taking immediate action, and further would submit that the recall of Hikmet Bey from his present post of commodore would be in the interest of public safety.

I have, &c.

HENRY D. BARNHAM.

Enclosure 2 in No. 302.

Captain Anderlich (commanding the steamship "Ismailia," of the Khedivial Mail Line) to Constantinople Agency

Sir,

Alexandria, 28th May, 1913.

I WOULD like to bring before your notice that no notice as ever given to ships at the port of Smyrna by the Turkish Government with regard to altering buoys and mines, and entering and leaving the port great risks is attached to the same.

Since the mines were first laid down vessels arriving from Piraeus had to stop at the white buoy (the outside limit of the mine-fields) and wait for the pilot steamer. On arrival of the steamer we would receive signals N 18. Follow me—and FIIN. Keep right astern—and proceed at various speeds, following the steamer passing first at right angles through two red buoys first and then two red buoys on the straight course. Leaving the two last buoys, signals are received MII. Stand on—and proceed at full speed for Sanjak Kalessi, where two more buoys are placed off the fort, ships having to pass right between the same, but without a pilot. From the 16th April mines were then laid on the Smyrna side of the fort and a small steamer acted as pilot to take vessels through. These mines were suddenly taken away, ships passing had no notice of the same, and at this place two bad accidents have already happened.

Leaving Smyrna, outward bound ships proceed at full speed as far as Sanjak Kalessi, where they wait for the pilot steamer, and follow the steamer through the same course until they arrive at the white buoy, then proceeding full speed on the voyage.

The trouble seems to be that the mines on the Smyrna side of the fort which were laid down in a hurry when the Greeks bombarded Vourlah, and were taken up again without any notice being given, have not all been removed, as has been proved by the 'Senegal' striking one in the same place, and ships take a great risk in passing over that channel until a thorough survey has been made.

I am, &c.

G. B. ANDERLICH.

[32509] No. 303

M. Gennadius to Sir L. Mallet.—(Received July 15.)

Dear Sir Louis Mallet,

Greek Legation, London, July 12, 1913.

I BEG to enclose a copy of the translation of the three telegrams which I had the honour of reading to you this morning.

Believe me, &c.

J. GENNADIUS.

Enclosure in No. 303

M. Coromilas to M. Gennadius.

(Télégraphique.)

Athènes le 11 juillet, 1913.

AMIRAL COUNDOURIOTIS vient de télégraphier qu'armée bulgare, en quittant Kavalla a emmené avec elle comme prisonniers archevêque grec, Mgr. Athanassios, et trente négociants grecs, premiers notables ville.

Je vous prie adresser pour ces faits inqualifiables nouvelle protestation Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité et le prier demander d'urgence par entremise légat on à Sophia renseignements sur sort tous ces prisonniers.

Veuillez me télégraphier réponse que Gouvernement recevra. COROMILAS.

[32614] No. 304.

Tewfik Pasha to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

L'AMBASSADEUR de Turquie présente ses compliments à Sir E. Grey, et a l'honneur, d'ordre de son Gouvernement, d'informer son Excellence que la Bulgarie enrôle de force actuellement les prisonniers de guerre ottomans pour combattre contre les armées serbes et grecques. Point n'est besoin de relever le caractère non seulement arbitraire mais contraire à tous les principes du droit moderne, de ce procédé nouveau du Gouvernement bulgare.

Depuis longtemps déjà ces prisonniers de guerre soumis aux fatigues et aux privations de la guerre balkanique, attendent impatiemment le retour dans leurs foyers, et cette obligation à combattre maintenant dans les rangs de leur ennemi d'hier constitue un acte d'inhumanité qui ne peut manquer de frapper l'esprit de haute équité et de justice du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté britannique. C'est dans cette conviction que Tewfik Pacha s'empresse d'adresser un appel urgent à son Excellence pour la prier de bien vouloir intervenir auprès du Gouvernement de Sophia afin de faire cesser ces enrôlements forcés, qui n'ont lieu exceptionnellement que dans les armées du droit international et du droit de la guerre modernes.

Ambassade Impériale Ottomane, Londres,
le 15 juillet 1913.

[32616] No. 305.

Director of Military Operations to Foreign Office.—(Received July 15.)

THE Director of Military Operations presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to inform him that Lieutenant-Colonel F. Cunliffe Owen, Military Attaché, Athens, reports by letter that he is unable to obtain permission from the Greek War Office to accompany the Greek army in the field. It will be within the recollection of Sir Edward Grey that His Majesty's Minister at Athens has made a similar telegraphic report as to the foreign attachés collectively.

General Wilson now begs to enquire whether, in view of the special courtesies which have from time to time been extended to the Greek Government by the British Government in regard to the visits of naval officers, testing of guns and materiel in our factories, permission granted to officers to go through courses, &c., steps cannot be taken to obtain preferential treatment in Lieutenant-Colonel Cunliffe Owen's case.

Should it be possible to obtain special permission for Lieutenant-Colonel Cunliffe Owen, General Wilson feels that it would be of considerable advantage from a military point of view.

War Office, July 14, 1913.

[32623] No. 306.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 279.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 14, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 272 of 12th July.

Negotiations for peace are proceeding actively through the intermediary of the Russian Government.

The Servian Government demand territory up to the right bank of the Vardar, including Kuprulu and Ishtib, but not Kotchana. The Greek demands are understood to be most onerous, comprising all territory south and west of Strumnitza and Struma, also Serres and Cavalla, together with war indemnity and guarantees of protection of Greek subjects in Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian Government concede up to Serres, but they stick at Cavalla and the indemnity. They may yield the former if the latter is waived.

Roumania has not made any proposals, but the Bulgarian Government are prepared to offer Turtukai-Baltchik line.

The action of Roumania places Bulgaria at the mercy of her opponents. Should terms be arranged early demobilisation may be expected.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[32452] No. 307.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 335.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 14, 1913.*

RODOSTO was occupied yesterday without opposition, Bulgarian forces having withdrawn. Grand Vizier states that measures for the preservation of order had been taken.

[32474] No. 308.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 336.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 14, 1913.*

GRAND VIZIER informs me that occupation of Dedeagatch by Greeks is causing Government much preoccupation as it was feared that Greeks, flushed with their successes against Bulgaria, might have designs on Adrianople, which is almost denuded of Bulgarian troops. His Highness, who was very reserved as to their instruction to commander-in-chief and not seen others, and disclaimed any desire to go beyond Enos-Midia line, but implied that Turkey did not wish to have Greece as a neighbour.

Press in general is urging strongly that advantage should be taken of present situation to improve on frontier agreed on in London, and even that attempt should be made to retake Adrianople.

It would clearly strengthen position of Committee if they could obtain better terms than those which Kiamil Pasha was ready to accept, and justify their *coup d'État*.

(Sent to Athens.)

[32567] No. 309.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 63.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 14, 1913.*

BULGARIANS retreating from Doiran again defeated by Greeks at Strumnitza 10th July, fled east towards Petritch. Another Bulgarian force, defeated at Demir Hissar 10th July, was driven north towards the same town. Now Bulgarian army is in full flight up the Struma towards Bulgaria.

(Above sent to Constantinople and Athens.)

[32573] No. 310.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 64.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 15, 1913.*

ON 11th July the Bulgarians carried off honorary Austrian consul at Serres and forty people who had taken refuge in the consulate with a view to kill them, but, after robbing them, finally released them. The Italian consul was also robbed.

Austrian and Italian consuls-general here left to-day to make an investigation.

[32620] No. 311

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey (*Received July 15.*)

(No. 65.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 15, 1913.*

GREEK Prime Minister returned to Salonica 14th July, left for Nisch early this morning.

(Above sent to Athens.)

[32626] No. 312.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey (*Received July 15.*)

(No. 338.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 15, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 334 of 13th July

Semi-official Ottoman agency denies that Powers have intimated to Turkey that she must not transgress Enos-Midia line, and Turkish press has of late been busy inflaming public opinion by stories of atrocities committed by Bulgarians and has openly advocated reprisals. In the circumstances it is to be feared that Turks may provoke incident with Bulgarians and then advance beyond line and confront Europe with *fait accompli*.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[32627] No. 313.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 340.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople July 15, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 334 of 13th July

I have twice impressed on Grand Vizier wisdom of not going beyond Enos-Midia line, but, in spite of his Highness's assurances reported in my telegram No. 323 of 7th July it appears probable chauvinists have got upper hand, and that his promises will not be kept.

Possibly immediate despatch of international commission to delimit frontier under Treaty of London might have restraining effect.

Russian Ambassador has already telegraphed to his Government in this sense. Russian and Austrian delegates have been appointed.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[32624] No. 314

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 93.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 15, 1913.*

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs is replying through M. Cambon to the questions referred to in your telegram No. 275 of yesterday. He has directed Ambassador to defend interests of Greece to the best of his ability, and to give way on the subject of Koritza if he is convinced it cannot be obtained for Greece.

I reminded the Minister for Foreign Affairs that it had long since been ascertained that Austria would not give way about Koritza. He replied that M. Cambon would give way about it. He further said that in the new circumstances Thasos would probably have to be ceded to Greece.

[32454] No. 315.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 280.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 15, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 273 of 13th July

I hear that instructions have been sent to Bulgarian garrison at Adrianople to prepare to resist Ottoman forces. Fresh troops are being sent there and wire entanglements constructed.

Sent to Constantinople.)

[32631] No. 316.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey (*Received July 15.*)

(No. 108.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 15, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Count Berchtold tells me to-day that last news from Belgrade was that Servian Prime Minister's moderate attitude with regard to peace proposals was meeting with much opposition in Skupshtina. I asked Count Berchtold whether he would oppose it that Vardar River should form new Servian frontier. He replied that he could not commit himself but that so far he had raised no objection to such a [group omitted] course]. He said that attitude of Austria was that frontiers of Balkan States had been fixed by Powers at Berlin Congress and that their approval was necessary before a new scheme of frontiers could become stable and legal.

Count Berchtold told me that according to his information Government at Sophia was completely disorganised, and that Bulgarian Prime Minister was losing authority day by day. Count Berchtold could give me no information as to how far Roumania would go in her invasion of Bulgaria. I tried to sound him as to what he would do should Roumania occupy Varna and Russia intervene on behalf of Bulgaria. He replied that this was very delicate question, and that he could not commit himself as to answer. He then alluded to recent French proposal of non-intervention. He described it as totally unpractical, and therefore useless, as it was impossible in present complicated situation in Balkans to lay down as a principle that in all circumstances this country would not be called upon to intervene. He declared to me, however, that last thing he wished to do was to intervene in Balkan affairs unless Austria's vital interests were really threatened.

[32823] No. 317.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

No. 109.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 15, 1913.*

ALBANIA

'Neue Freie Presse' this morning announces that Austro-Hungarian Government, with the approval of the Powers, is about to send a high military adviser to the Provisional Government, and to organise new Albanian army. The name of the officer is given. The Minister for Foreign Affairs told me this morning that this information is absolutely incorrect, and, in his opinion, it must refer to the approaching nomination of Austrian officer to delimit, with the co-operation of representatives of the other Powers, the northern frontier of Albania.

Talking of Southern Albania and Greek pretensions, the Minister for Foreign Affairs told me that he was daily receiving long telegrams from Albanians in United States appealing to him to save this district of native towns of Epirus from Greek domination. These telegrams professed to record resolutions passed at meetings of large numbers of Albanians.

[32621] No. 318.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 259.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *St. Petersburgh, July 15, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 105 of 3rd July to Belgrade. Evacuation of Albanian towns by Servian troops.

Russian Government have sent similar instructions to their representative in Belgrade.

[32622] No. 319.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 260.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *St. Petersburgh, July 15, 1913.*

YOUR circular telegram No. 262 of 8th July to Paris. Duties at Scutari.

Russian Government concur in views of His Majesty's Government, and in the proposal that admiral should be instructed to act he thinks best after consultation with his colleagues.

[32629] No. 320.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 177.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 15, 1913.*

THE Russian Minister tells me that the Prime Minister and Greek Premier will meet to-morrow or the day after at Nish, and it appears most urgent the Bulgarian Government should send a delegate with full powers to arrange armistice and peace preliminaries. Unfortunately they talk much about being willing to make concessions, but take no action. No hostilities have taken place for two days, and present moment is therefore propitious for negotiations.

Servian Prime Minister who appreciates desirability of moderation, has been encouraging to influence leaders of political parties here and military authorities, who originally demanded up to Strouma, and hopes that he has succeeded in making them take reasonable view. He will endeavour likewise to move Greek Premier to be moderate and not insist on Cavalla. At the same time, for strategical safety of Uskub Servian military authorities consider necessary that frontier be pushed somewhat east of Vardar but not so far that Bulgaria will not still retain considerable territory in Macedonia.

(Sent to Sophia and Bucharest.)

[32628] No. 321.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 126. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 15, 1913.*

BELGRADE telegram No. 174 of 12th July, St. Petersburgh telegram No. 257 of 13th July, and Constantinople telegram No. 336 of 14th July.

Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs says that reports of Russian Minister at Belgrade are not to be trusted, as Servian Government do not dare to speak openly to him, but he is certain they will not be satisfied with line of Vardar.

I cannot get him to tell me the Greek demands, those communicated by him to Russian and French Ministers were only unofficial and had not been approved by King,

who has since altered them, nor by Servian Government. M. Venizelos has gone to meet Servian Prime Minister at Nisch. The King and army are so exasperated by Bulgarian atrocities that it will difficult to induce them to leave any populations of Greek race under direct Bulgarian rule without guarantees amounting perhaps to autonomy. Greek Government have no desire to absorb any Bulgarians. Cavalla will be definitely claimed as almost entirely Greek. Indemnity will be demanded to compensate families of killed and wounded and to rebuild towns and villages destroyed.

Drama was occupied yesterday or 13th July by Greek right. Minister denied occupation of Dedeagatch. I agree strongly against the occupation of places which Greece certainly will not be allowed to keep. He seems to think views of Europe will change when it is known what the Bulgaria is really are.

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[32616] No. 322.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(No. 101.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 15, 1913.*

YESTERDAY the Russian Minister informed the Minister for Foreign Affairs that he was empowered by the Bulgarian Government to offer Dedeagatch line. At the same time he expressed the hope that Roumanian troops would not advance beyond this line, and that the Roumanian Government would use its influence in a conciliatory sense at Athens and Belgrade.

The Russian Minister expects an answer to-day, but he thinks that Roumanian troops, as soon as they are ready, will cross the Danube in force. He has done his utmost to dissuade the Roumanian Government from this step pending the settlement of the situation at Sophia, as he is uncertain as to decisions of the military party.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[32608] No. 323.

Consul Towsey to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 15.)

(Telegraphic.) *Uscodc* *Mitau, July 15, 1913.*

CAMPBELL telegraphs Greek consul desires to withdraw letter of 8th July owing to error in transmission of telegram from his Government.

[32304] No. 324.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.**

(No. 278.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 15, 1913.*

SIR H. BAX-IRONSIDE'S telegram No. 273 of 13th July. Advance of Turkish troops.

Ask view of Government to which you are accredited as to advising Ottoman Government as proposed. In view of similar step already taken by all the Powers at Sophia, it seems reasonable, in order to avoid further complications, to deprecate any advance beyond Enos-Midia line.

(Repeated to Constantinople No. 325, and Sophia, No. 147, for information.)

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* Also to Earl Granville (No. 266), Sir F. Cartwright (No. 220), Sir G. Buchanan (No. 527), and Sir R. Rodd (No. 210).

[33046] No. 325.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.**

(No. 146.) *Foreign Office, July 15, 1913.*

Sir,

JUST before the *reunion* met to-day, the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors gave me the following project for the organisation of Albania, to which they said that their Governments would agree —

'L'Albanie est constituée en principauté autonome, souveraine et héréditaire par ordre de primogéniture sous la garantie des six Puissances. Le Prince sera désigné par les six Puissances.

'Tout lien de suzeraineté entre la Turquie et l'Albanie est exclu.

"L'Albanie est neutralisée; sa neutralité est garantie par les six Puissances.

'Le contrôle de l'administration civile et des finances de l'Albanie est confié à une commission internationale composée des délégués des six Puissances et d'un délégué de l'Albanie.

"Les pouvoirs de cette commission dureront cinq ans, et pourront être renouvelés en cas de besoin.

"Cette commission sera chargée d'élaborer un projet d'organisation détaillée de toutes les branches de l'administration de l'Albanie. Elle présentera aux Puissances, dans un délai de six mois au rapport sur le résultat de ses travaux, ainsi que ses conclusions au sujet de l'organisation administrative et financière du pays et de l'organisation du contrôle des Puissances pour la durée du mandat de la commission.

"Le Prince sera nommé dans un délai de six mois au plus tard. En attendant la désignation du Prince le fonctionnement des autorités nationales qui administrent leur pays sous souveraineté et de fait sera contrôlé par la commission internationale susmentionnée.

'La sécurité et l'ordre public seront assurés par l'organisation internationale de la gendarmerie. Cette organisation sera confiée à des officiers étrangers qui auront le commandement supérieur et effectif de la gendarmerie.

'Ces officiers seront choisis dans les armées européennes, comme de la Suède, Belgique, Hollande, Suisse, Norvège, Espagne, à l'exclusion des six Puissances des États balkaniques et des Gouvernements ayant des intérêts directs dans les questions balkaniques.

"La mission des officiers instructeurs étrangers ne portera pas atteinte ni à l'uniformité du service, ni à l'emploi d'officiers, sous-officiers et gendarmes indigènes.

"Les traitements de ces officiers pourront être assurés sur les ressources du pays avec la garantie des Puissances.

On reading this project cursorily, I observed that, though it embodied the suggestions that I had made, objection would probably be taken to words that looked as if the control of the Powers was to be limited to the five years for which the commission was appointed. I said that I was not aware who the national authorities in Albania were who were referred to in article 7 of the project.

The two Ambassadors said that there would be great difficulty about laying down a principle that the control of the Powers was to be permanent.

I observed that the words used in the resolution come to during last winter were 'garantie et contrôlée par les six Puissances.'

The Ambassadors, however, held that this did not mean executive control of Albania perpetually.

I told them that, as the French and Russian Ambassadors had not yet seen the project, and I had read it only cursorily, I thought that we could hardly do more this afternoon than refer it to the respective Governments.

At the *reunion* I gave the draft to M. Cambon, who read it to the *reunion*.

The French and Russian Ambassadors at once took the point, about the national authorities in Albania, that I had taken, and subsequently the Russian Ambassador raised the point of the control of the Powers.

It then appeared that there was a serious misunderstanding about the resolution come to on the 20th December last.

I said that I had taken it as implying international control.

* Also to Sir F. Bertie (No. 452), Earl Granville (No. 233), Sir H. Rodd (No. 179), and Sir G. Buchanan (No. 254).

The Austrian and Italian Ambassadors contended that that was only meant when the sovereignty or suzerainty of the Sultan was preserved.

The result of the discussion is contained in the following record of the opinions expressed respecting the draft —

Paragraph 1	Adopted *ad referendum*
" Paragraph 2	" "
Paragraph 3	" "
' Paragraph 4	" "
" Paragraph 5 '	Adopted

In regard to this paragraph 'Le Comte Benckendorff fait observer que, d'après la résolution du 20 décembre dernier, il a été convenu que la autonomie albanaise sera garantie et contrôlée exclusivement par les six Puissances, et que ce contrôle des Puissances ne devra pas prendre fin si les pouvoirs de la Commission de Contrôle ne sont pas renouvelés à l'expiration des cinq années.

"'Sur l'observation du Comte Benckendorff, le Marquis Imperiali parlant en son nom personnel, dit qu'on pourrait peut être, afin de n'arrêter à la permanence du contrôle, substituer la durée de dix ans à celle de cinq ans dans l'article 6.

'Paragraph 6. Adopted with the omission of the passage from ' et de l'organisation to ' mandat de la commission.'

'Paragraph 7. Comte Benckendorff proposed for practical reasons 'one year' for six months.

'M. Cambon proposed the following amendment: 'En attendant la désignation du Prince, la Commission de Contrôle exerce par ses agents d'exécution et procédera avec le concours des autorités locales . . . .' Adopted *ad referendum*.

'Paragraph 8. Adopted *ad referendum*.

'Paragraph 9. Adopted, with modification: 'Ces officiers seront choisis en Suède.'

'Paragraph 10. Adopted *ad referendum*.

Paragraph 11. Adopted *ad referendum*.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[32643] No. 326.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 612.) *Constantinople, July 11, 1913.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's acting consul-general at Salonica reporting on capture of Bulgarian garrison by Greeks in Salonica.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 326.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir G. Louther.

(No. 62.) *Salonica, July 2, 1913.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report that the attack by Greek troops on the various houses in which the Bulgarian troops in Salonica were lodged, beginning about 6.30 P.M. on Monday, ended at 6 A.M. on Tuesday morning in the capture or destruction of the defenders.

In all some thirteen or fourteen buildings in various parts of the town were occupied by the Bulgarian garrison and these were simultaneously besieged by Greek soldiers and Cretan gendarmes. Machine guns were used from the beginning of the fight, and about midnight field guns were brought into action. On the Hamidieh Boulevard, in different parts of which Bulgarians occupied some five or six houses, a brisk fight was carried on till 10.30 P.M., when the Bulgarians surrendered. A small mountain gun was brought into use against one of the houses and part of the façade was blown away.

In Aghia Sophia Street the Bulgarians had occupied the Mosque of Aghia Sophia

a house facing it, and, near by the Bulgarian girls' school. Here fighting went on all night and was particularly fierce. The Bulgarians kept up a continuous rifle fire from the minaret of the mosque, and bombs were continually thrown. At midnight, after the capture of the mosque, the Greeks brought up field guns and bombarded the Bulgarian position facing the mosque and soon captured it. The Bulgarian troops and comitajis occupying the Bulgarian girls' school and the Bulgarian bishop's house and school close by held out till morning when the positions were finally captured.

The general population at the first shot took refuge in their houses, and though they passed an anxious night, during which the sound of rifle firing was incessant, and the reports of the bigger guns and the explosions of bombs were heard at frequent intervals, did not suffer in any way. The following morning the town wore its normal aspect, and the population went about their business as usual.

Some 950 Bulgarian troops were captured as a result of the fighting, and together with them some 200 civilians, comitajis and others, who had either taken part in the fighting or were suspected. They have been embarked on board a ship and will probably be sent to Crete. The Greek estimate of the Bulgarian casualties is some forty killed, while they estimate their own losses at about twenty killed and wounded.

I have, &c.
JAMES MORGAN.

[32739] No. 327

Messrs. Ogden and Thompson, to Foreign Office.—(Received July 16.)

Cecil Chambers, 86, Strand, London,
July 15, 1913.

Sir,

We beg to thank you for your letter of yesterday's date.

We have seen in the press to-day that there has been great destruction of leaf tobacco by fire at Serres, said to have been caused by the Bulgarian troops on leaving the city. So far as we know the Export Leaf Tobacco Company has no leaf tobacco at Serres, but it has at Xanthi and other places, and we therefore hope that His Majesty's representatives in Turkey will take every possible step to protect property in Macedonia.

We are, &c.
(For British-American Tobacco Company (Limited)),
JOSEPH HOOD, *Director*.

[32792] No. 328

Note communicated by Austrian Embassy, July 16, 1913.

LES Bulgares procedant à la saisie du papier à cigarettes importé dans les territoires occupés par eux et imposant des accises et des droits de débit pour boissons alcooliques, l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté britannique à Vienne a suggéré de faire une nouvelle démarche à Sophia afin que l'Administration bulgare se conforme aux demandes formulées dans la démarche collective du 30 mars au sujet des droits imposés aux marchandises étrangères dans les territoires occupés par les alliés.

Le Comte Berchtold a favorablement accueilli cette suggestion et a chargé le Ministre austro-hongrois à Sophia de s'associer à cette démarche.

Le Comte Berchtold est toutefois d'avis qu'une démarche analogue devrait être faite à Belgrade et à Athènes, car ni la Serbie ni la Grèce n'ont tenu compte des objections présentées par les Grandes Puissances. La Serbie continue à percevoir, à titre de contribution de guerre, des accises et des droits additionnels élevés. La Grèce applique un traitement préférentiel aux produits grecs en les admettant sans payement de droits en Crète et dans les autres territoires sous l'occupation grecque.

Le Comte Berchtold voudrait savoir si le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté britannique est disposé soit à suggérer de sa part qu'une démarche identique soit faite auprès des Gouvernements à Belgrade et à Athènes, soit à s'associer à une telle démarche.

Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres,
le 16 juillet, 1913.

[33144] No. 329.

Memorandum communicated by Count Mensdorff, July 16, 1913.

CONSIDERING the general desire for a speedy restoration of peace in the Balkans, the question naturally arises if the Powers could contribute to this result by a joint action.

This idea has repeatedly been discussed in informal conversation especially in Paris where without giving it the form of a positive proposal, the idea has been formulated in the way that the Powers might make a joint *démarche* at Sophia, and advise Bulgaria to give up certain territories, to stop hostilities, and to appeal to European mediation.

Though the Imperial and Royal Government desire as much as anybody the end of the war in the Balkans, and are quite ready to join in an action to that effect, Count Berchtold could not entirely assent to the *modus procedendi* indicated above.

Such an action of the Powers would not only tend towards the cessation of hostilities, but might also prejudice the final settlement of the territorial questions in the Balkans. Count Berchtold does not think he could take already to-day a definite position on this question. He also does not think it would be in the interest of the European agreement which will have to be arrived at on this question if individual Powers tie their hands in advance by concrete declaration.

Count Berchtold however agrees with the general idea in the sense that he also regards a diplomatic action with the object of an early cessation of hostilities as most urgent, only he thinks this action ought to be limited to this, its main object, and leave out territorial questions, the discussion of which might only delay the action.

For these reasons Count Berchtold thinks it would be useful if the Powers would instruct their representatives at Athens, Belgrade, and Sophia to advise the three Governments to stop hostilities and to enter immediately—either directly or through mediation of the Powers—into negotiations to settle the basis on which they could conclude peace. At the same time the Powers could also declare that they reserve their right to examine the result of these pourparlers directe.

Count Berchtold also thinks the Ambassadors at Constantinople might invite the Porte to abstain from allowing the Turkish troops to advance beyond the line of Enos–Midia.

Austro-Hungarian Embassy, London,
July 16, 1913.

[32686] No. 330

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 94.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July* 15, 1913.

WHEN I went by appointment, to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs this evening to act on your telegram No. 275 of 14th July (see my telegram No. 93 of to-day), I found Russian Ambassador waiting to see Minister for Foreign Affairs. He told me that Servians and Bulgarians were ready to accept arbitration of Russia, but that the pretensions of the Greeks were absurd.

Bulgarian Minister then arrived, having, he said, been with the Minister for Foreign Affairs to see President of the Republic, for the Roumanians had occupied Varna. The "huissier" then announced that the Minister for Foreign Affairs was ready to receive Russian Ambassador, and he left us. Bulgarian Minister, who was in tears, told me that he was the only person who had cypher communication with the King of the Bulgarians, and that His Majesty had telegraphed directing him to appeal to French Government for the intervention of the Powers to cause hostilities to cease, for the Roumanians had occupied Varna, and if warlike operations continued and the people at Sophia learned the situation, there would be a revolution. I asked Bulgarian Minister what he expected the Powers to do. He said that they should insist on a cessation of hostilities, so that they might decide on the terms of peace or allow Russia to decide. I suggested that, if one or more of the belligerents objected to the decision given, the Powers or Russia might be in the predicament of having to submit to a rebuff or proceed to enforce terms of peace, and I did not

suppose that either French or British Government would care to occupy such a position. Bulgarian Minister said it would be impossible to negotiate on the field of battle as was claimed by Greeks. There was no Bulgarian fit to send, and, moreover, before negotiators could meet at Nisch or elsewhere in the Balkans, there would be a catastrophe at Sophia.

King of the Bulgarians would submit to any terms approved by the Powers, but there was no time to lose.

Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me that Bulgarian Minister had in the name of King asked for the intervention of all the Powers to settle ("taxer") the terms of peace. Answer made to Bulgarian Minister by President of Republic was that French Government would be ready to accept in accord with the other Powers, any proposals calculated to bring about peace as rapidly as possible. He is telegraphing to that effect to French Ambassadors at the several capitals concerned.

M. Isvolsky informed French Minister for Foreign Affairs that the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, who was not aware of occupation of Varna by the Roumanians, was of opinion that conclusion of peace might be hastened by despatch of a Bulgarian plenipotentiary to attend meeting of the representatives of Servia and Greece at Nisch which has been proposed by the Servian Prime Minister.

[32674] No. 331.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 139.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 15, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 13th July and my telegram No. 335 of 14th July.

Vice-consul at Rodosto reports that some 200 Turkish soldiers were landed at Rodosto on 11th July. They took prisoner the Bulgarian civil officials left behind to hand over the town in accordance with the arrangement which M. Natchevitch was instructed to make with the Porte, saying that they came as conquerors. They murdered several police agents, one of them Armenian, and some peasants working in their fields. Some thirty deaths in all have occurred. The terrified population is taking refuge with the consuls and in foreign houses. The vice-consul adds that Cadi who is acting as Governor appears to have no control over troops. There is a considerable colony of Armenians at Rodosto, and, their sympathies being notoriously with the Bulgarians, they are particularly exposed to danger of reprisals.

In those circumstances I have sent H.M.S. 'Diogene' to Rodosto with dragoman to ascertain state of affairs, and I hope that her presence will prevent further excesses.

It seems to me important that some immediate action should be taken, as otherwise similar acts may be perpetrated all over reoccupied districts.

[32630] No. 332.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 281.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Sophia, July 15, 1913.*

ROUMANIANS have crossed to Rahovo, and are gradually advancing into Bulgaria. Cavalry came to within 3 kilom. of Varna yesterday, but then retired.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

[32687] No. 333.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 282.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 15, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 264 of 10th July.

I gathered from Director-General of Customs that Bulgarian Government are enforcing their own excise regulations in occupied territory on the ground that treaty signed with Turkey in London was definitive, and that Turkish fiscal régime may be accordingly superseded.

[32799] No. 334.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 283.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 16, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 273 of 13th July. Turkish advance.

Governor of Kirk Kilisse reports that Turks have taken Lule Burgas station and are still advancing. They are now threatening Visa, and the Bulgarian Government anticipate massacre of the population, mostly Greek.

The President of the Council and "chef de cabinet" on behalf of the King of the Bulgarians, request me to inform you urgently of above, in the hope that immediate steps may be taken at Constantinople to stop the Turkish advance.

Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[32793] No. 335.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 95.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 16, 1913.*

BULGARIAN Minister has received a further telegram from King of Bulgarians, and he wishes me to inform you that Roumanians are at Varna, and are marching on Tirnova and Sophia, to which population of country traversed by invading army is flying in panic. There will be a battle at Sophia, for there are there 100,000 Bulgarian troops. Ministry has resigned, and no successors can be found, and His Majesty is the only responsible person in authority. He asks that Powers should insist on Roumanians ceasing their advance, and that Turks, who are about to occupy Lozengrad, and will then march on Adrianople, should be called upon to retire within the frontier line of Enos-Media.

Servians have halted, but Greeks continue to advance.

[32795] No. 336.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 97.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 16, 1913.*

SOPHIA telegram No. 273 of 13th July and your circular telegram No. 278 to Paris of 15th July.

French Minister for Foreign Affairs concurs in your view, and, as Turks have already gone beyond the Enos-Media line, he considers that Porte should be urged to withdraw their troops from outside that line.

[32802] No. 337.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 263.)
(Telegraphic.) R *St. Petersburgh, July 16, 1913.*

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs, to whom I sent yesterday *aide-memoire* embodying your telegram No. 523 of 14th July, to-day expressed to me his concurrence in your proposals with regard to southern frontier of Albania.

[32803] No. 338.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 16.)

(No. 264.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *St. Petersburgh, July 16, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 527 of 15th July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs has already instructed Russian Ambassador at Constantinople to tell Ottoman Government that their troops must not advance beyond the line laid down in Treaty of Peace.

[32804] No. 339

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 16.*)

(No. 265.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 16, 1913.*

AUSTRIAN Ambassador to-day proposed to Minister for Foreign Affairs that Powers should tell Balkan States that they must at once conclude armistice and either submit to approval of Powers their proposals with regard to future delimitation of territory in dispute or leave its final settlement in hands of Powers.

Minister for Foreign Affairs replied that Greek and Servian Prime Ministers were about to meet at Nisch, and that he trusted that Bulgarians would also send a delegate. He would therefore prefer to await result of this meeting.

His Excellency told me that he was against any collective action by Powers. He thought that it would be better that Balkan States should settle question of delimitation between themselves, and that a conference of Powers should be held in Paris and ratify settlement and liquidation of war. He is afraid, however, that Greeks may ask for too much.

He is somewhat perturbed by Roumanian occupation of Varna, and is doing what he can to stop further advance. He fears that if Bulgarians carry out their intention of advancing against Servians north, Roumanian army will occupy Sophia.

His Excellency says that it looks as if Bulgaria were on eve of a revolution, and he considers position of King Ferdinand critical.

[32797] No. 340.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 16.*)

(No. 127.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 16, 1913.*

AFTER severe fighting at Banitza, on Serres-Nevrokop road yesterday, Greek right entered Mehomia unopposed. Victims of Bulgarian massacres Doxato Monday officially stated between 2,000 and 3,000.

[32786] No. 341

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 16.*)

(No. 102.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 16, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from the military attaché for the Director of Military Operations:

"Following is the latest official information: operations in quadrilateral have hitherto been unopposed, and the Roumanians have occupied the line Turtukai-Baltchik.

"Invasion of Bulgaria at two other points by means of bridges completed yesterday is also announced. Position of bridges is not stated."

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[32787] No. 342

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 16.*)

(No. 103.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 16, 1913.*

THE Russian Minister tells me that the resignation of the Bulgarian Prime Minister having increased uncertainty of the situation at Sophia, he does not for the moment expect a definite answer from the Roumanian Government to his communication reported in my telegram No. 101 of 15th July.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[32798] No. 343.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 16.*)

(No. 104.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Bucharest, July 16, 1913.*

PARLIAMENT met this morning for a short extraordinary session. Opening sentences of the King's Speech were as follows:—

"War has again broken out in the Balkans, provoked this time by Bulgaria against her own allies.

"My Government has had to take measures necessary for maintenance of position to which Roumania is entitled in presence of new situation in Balkans."

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[32784] No. 344

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 16.*)

(No. 111. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 16, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 278 of 15th July to Paris. Turkish advance.

The German Government have all along exercised all possible pressure on Turkey not to advance beyond Enos-Midia line, and will continue to do so. The Secretary of State read me a very confidential telegram from German Ambassador at Constantinople expressing serious fears that feeling in the army was too strong, and that the Government would be overthrown if they tried to stop advance on Adrianople. The Ambassador added that the advice of the Powers was of little use, as the Turks were convinced that there was no danger of combined military action to stop them, and that action by a single Power would break up the European concert.

[32785] No. 345

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 16.*

(No. 178.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 16, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 15th July.

Bulgarian Government as yet show no signs of approaching Servian Government. Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs said that fact is considered ominous, and that Bulgarian military authorities are again planning some coup, as Servian Government have news that Bulgarian army is being concentrated in force at Kustendil.

Servian and Greek Prime Ministers meet at Uskub to-day.

(Sent to Athens, Bucharest, and Sophia.)

[32806] No. 346.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 16.*)

(No. 67.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 16, 1913.*

SEVERAL British tobacco companies, fearing that Xanthi will be burnt by Bulgarians, like Seres, in which tobacco stocks were destroyed, beg help of Foreign Office to prevent this.

[32627] No. 347.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr Marling.

(No. 329.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, July 16, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 340 of 15th July and Lord Granville's telegram No. 111 of 16th July.

You should, without waiting for your other colleagues, urge Turkish Government not to advance beyond Enos-Midia line. You can point out that every new complication increases risk of intervention by some Great Power, and that, whether such intervention broke up the European concert or not, it would probably raise the whole question of Constantinople, which has been saved so far by the Treaty of Peace signed in London.

If Turkey renews the war she may provoke consequences as disastrous to her as those which forward policy of Bulgarian Government has brought on Bulgaria.

(Repeated to Vienna, No. 223, St. Petersburgh, No. 333, Rome, No. 213, Paris, No. 281, and Berlin, No. 269.)

[32674] No. 348.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr Marling.

(No. 333.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 16, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 339 of 15th July. Turks at Rodosto.

Your action approved.

[30424] No. 349.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 222.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, July 16, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 145 of 18th April. Preferential treatment of Greek goods in Crete.

Proposed representation at Athens cannot be made because Austro-Hungarian Minister is still without instructions.

Ask that they may be sent as soon as possible.

[32627] No. 350.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.**

(No. 282.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 16, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 16th July, repeating telegram No. 329 to Constantinople.

You should inform Minister for Foreign Affairs.

[33047] No. 351.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir G. Buchanan.

(No. 255.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 16, 1913.*

COUNT BENCKENDORFF asked me to-day what I thought about the point raised at the *reunion* yesterday. He would like to let M. Sazonof know my opinion.

I said that I thought that, if we could gain an international commission of control for Albania for five years, it was unnecessary to be explicit as to what was to happen at the end of the five years. The Austro-Italian draft contained the valuable words that the commission could be renewed at the end of five years, in case of need. It would

* Also to Sir R. Rodd (No. 214), Sir G. Buchanan (No. 534), Sir F. Cartwright (No. 224), and Earl Granville (No. 270).

therefore be open to any one of the Powers, when the time came, to propose either that the international commission should be continued or that the right of the Powers to the control of Albania should be preserved in some other way. I should like to take the line with the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors that, provided there was nothing in the arrangement about Albania which could be referred to as a presumption that the control of the Powers was to cease when the commission ended, we should not insist on putting into the draft words that definately asserted that means must be found to preserve the control of the Powers when the commission ended.

Count Benckendorff said that, if ten years could be substituted for five years, he would certainly agree, as far as his own opinion went. He seemed disposed to accept what I had said and to think that at the *reunion* yesterday the point had been pressed further than was necessary.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[32647] No. 352.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 132.)
Sir, *Belgrade, July 9, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copy of a despatch which has been addressed to me by His Majesty's vice-consul at Uskub upon the subject of the situation in his consular district resulting from the present Servo-Bulgarian conflict.

I have, &c.
RALPH PAGET.

Enclosure in No. 352.

Vice-Consul Peckham to Sir R. Paget.

No. 30.)
Sir, *Uskub, July 5, 1913.*

IT is with regret that I report that I am unable to obtain much in the way of trustworthy news of the present Serbo-Bulgarian conflict (information in Turkish days was much easier to come by). In consequence of the prohibition of cypher telegrams, reported in my telegram No. 32 of the 3rd instant, and the consequent censorship on telegrams *en clair*, I have not thought it worth while to trouble you with telegrams of such official news as may easily be gained from the Belgrade press.

The Servians appear optimistic, at the same time I doubt whether affairs are going so well as they are represented. I learned on Wednesday that Deve Kapu had been seized by Bulgars (probably chetniks, not regular troops), and I have yet to learn that they have been dislodged. I would also point out that, while on Tuesday I heard officially that the Servians were close to Ishtib, the fall of that town has never been officially announced, though persistent rumours of it were in circulation as long ago as Monday. I imagine that the wish was father to the thought.

I believe that the number of prisoners taken has been exaggerated; some trainloads which passed through here were really in part filled with Bulgars from Kuprulu (Veles), who had been deported as a measure of precaution. In the same way a number of Bulgar notables here have been transferred to Mitrovitsa, and the Exarchist Metropolitan, Neophyte, is virtually a prisoner in his own house.

So far I have heard of no signs of revolt on the part of the Bulgars in the parts of Kossovo occupied by the Servians (such as I hear has taken place in Monastir vilayet), and have even heard the opinion expressed (by a Moslem) that no such revolt would take place. But news of signal Bulgarian victories might produce at least a partial insurrection which would considerably embarrass the Servians. And it is not to be forgotten that conditions in one respect resemble those of the Turkish war—the Servians are fighting in what is virtually an enemy country. The Exarchist villages would welcome the Bulgars as deliverers, would supply them with guides, and would make the leaving of large forces to hold down the country in the rear unnecessary.

I would also note that the Lyuma country has apparently been evacuated by the Servians; that, in the opinion of a Kalkandelen Albanian, the Lyuma Albanians are adequately armed, and that a raid on the Upper Vardar Valley, where there are at present but two battalions, is within the bounds of possibility.

The Servians are, for obvious reasons, most anxious that it should be known that the Bulgarians were the aggressors, and have stated that the foreign consuls have independent evidence to that effect. I have no such evidence nor, I believe, have any of my colleagues, except the French consul; my impression certainly is that the Bulgarians were the first to attack, but this is derived from Servian sources. The Servians appeared somewhat pleased at the fall of Gevgueli; this is explicable, since, convinced as they are that victory will be theirs, their diplomatic position is strengthened if it is proved that the Bulgarians were the aggressors.

Whatever the result of the war, I cannot believe that it will be won as easily as the Turkish war was. I have heard of the Bulgarian division of the Rilo being annihilated, and, from surer sources, of four survivors only from a locally raised volunteer battalion. The number too of wounded coming in is great, while the Servians accuse the Bulgarians of massacring their wounded. Feeling between Serb and Bulgar must be ten times bitterer in these days of wholesale propaganda by armies and Governments than it was in the old days of a few bands tempered by the Ottoman authorities.

I have, &c.
W. W. PECKHAM

[32836] No. 353

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 155.)

Sir, *Athens, July 10, 1913.*

AS instructed by your despatch No. 65 of the 27th June I enquired of the Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs as to the possibility of the establishment of a Government monopoly of the exportation of tobacco in the districts acquired by Greece from Turkey.

M. Coromilas replied to me to-day that the idea had not entered the minds of the Greek Government at all, and, without positively binding himself for the future, he thought it most unlikely that they would ever entertain it, as they were fully aware of the disadvantages of such a system. He thought it most probable that the system at present in force in Turkey would be continued.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT

[32837] No. 354

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 156.)

Sir, *Athens, July 11, 1913.*

M. VENIZELOS came to see me this morning to tell me that the Russian Government had proposed to the Governments of the Balkan States that they should suspend hostilities among themselves and send their Premiers to St. Petersburgh to discuss a settlement. This M. Venizelos thought was impossible; it would give the Bulgarians time to recover from the smashing blows which had been so rapidly dealt them by the Greeks and Servians, and it would be folly on the part of the latter to give them another opportunity of exercising the treacherous arts in which they had shown themselves so proficient. The Greeks and Servians had no desire to crush the Bulgarians utterly, but the latter had been beaten, and they must acknowledge the fact and must sign the preliminaries of peace on the battlefield. The Greek Government had carried patience and concession to the extreme limit, even to the extent of risking their own popularity in the country in the endeavour to avoid war, as it had been forced upon them, and they had been victorious, they could not remain contented with such a settlement as they would have accepted before. They must have Serres and Cavalla, and above all they must have guarantees for the proper treatment of the Greek populations that must necessarily remain under Bulgarian rule. The behaviour of the Bulgarians made this an absolute necessity.

I asked M. Venizelos what he meant by "guarantees": did he mean a right of inspection and supervision of Greeks in Bulgaria? His Excellency replied that he did not want to go so far as that, but he required a treaty stipulation that the rights of

Greek communities in respect of churches, schools, &c., should be respected. I suggested that, as presumably he would be prepared to guarantee the same rights in favour of Bulgarians in Greece, it would avoid some humiliation of an enemy with whom I supposed he wished to live on good terms in the future, if a reciprocal clause were inserted in the treaty. M. Venizelos said he had no objection to that, but as for living on good terms with the Bulgarians, that would be out of the question for many years to come. He alluded to the atrocities which the Bulgarians had been committing, which had roused the army to uncontrollable fury, and which could never be effaced from men's minds. I shall have the honour to report on these in another despatch.

The Russian Government, he knew, did not wish Bulgaria to be too much weakened. I reminded him that his own policy was that of an equilibrium of the Balkan States. He said that was his policy still, but he thought it would be in the interest of peace and to the advantage of her friends that Greece should be brought up to something like an equality of numbers with Bulgaria. He hoped that His Majesty's Government would recognise that his reasoning was sound and his demands moderate, and would not give their support to the Russian proposal.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT

[32838] No. 355.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 157.)

Sir, *Athens, July 11, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith extracted from the "Echos d'Athènes" of yesterday an account by the superior of the French Roman Catholic Mission at Kilkis of horrors committed by the Bulgarians, of which he himself was an eye-witness.* They include the burning alive of 700 men in a mosque at that place, and similar atrocities in other villages. The victims included both Mussulmans and Christians.

Wounded men left by the Greeks on their retirement from an unsuccessful assault have been found on their successful return savagely bayonetted and with their eyes put out.

These and other similar acts of the same kind have roused the Greek army to uncontrollable fury, and have greatly contributed to the success of King Constantine's forced marches. The one thing the Greek soldier thinks of is to get at the enemy and his onslaught is irresistible, though the casualty list is enormous.

At Doiran the Bulgarians troops in retreating carried off the Greek Bishop and twenty or thirty notables: they have done the same at Cavalla and the fate of these hostages gives rise to the gravest apprehensions.

M. Pichon, a French gentleman employed at a salary of 100,000 francs a-year, and therefore a man of some standing, by an important French financial syndicate to visit and report on the economical possibilities of the various countries, has just returned from a tour in Macedonia and Thrace, and reports the devastation caused by the Bulgarians as beyond belief. He estimates the number of Mussulmans who have been made away with in Thrace at 250,000. While at Sophia he enquired of a Bulgarian Minister what was being done to trace the owners of deserted farms. The Minister replied: "Oh, there are not many of them left," but tried to explain away his answer when he saw the effect it produced on his interlocutor.

The Turkish peasants are spontaneously offering every assistance to the Greek troops, helping the wounded, carrying ammunition to the firing line, and sometimes giving more active support, as in the case of a squad of twenty Greek gendarmes, who fell upon a Bulgarian detachment of 100 men and routed it with the help of the Mussulmans of a neighbouring village, who fell upon the Bulgarians in the rear. The Turkish prisoners in Greece, officers and men, are volunteering to serve against the Bulgarians, their offers are not being accepted, though Vehid Bey, the brother of Essad Pasha of Yannina, has been allowed to join a divisional staff.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT

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* Not printed.

[32887] No. 356.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 613.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 11, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's acting consul-general at Salonica reporting outbreak of Greco-Bulgarian hostilities.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 356.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir G. Lowther.

No. 63. (Confidential.)

Sir, *Salonica, July 4, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that, in my opinion the responsibility for the present fighting between Bulgaria and her allies lies on the Bulgarians. Previous encounters between Bulgarians and Greeks in the Mount Pangheion district were invariably begun by Bulgarians, who have, on recent occasions, never made any secret of their intention of driving the Greeks beyond the Vardar and of taking possession of Salonica. During the last two months the movement of Bulgarian troops, &c., from Thrace into Macedonia has been forcibly carried on, and Bulgarians, both civilian and military, with whom I had an opportunity of conversing were unanimous in anticipating an attack on Greece and Servia as soon as the concentration of the Bulgarian troops on the east of the Vardar River was completed.

This concentration was practically accomplished when I left Cavalla on the third week in June, and the passage through the Dardanelles shortly afterwards of the Bulgarian steamers "Boris" and "Varna," which for the last six weeks have been constantly engaged in transporting troops and material from Bulair and Dedeagatch to Cavalla, indicated that the day for the Bulgarian attack on her allies was close at hand.

On Sunday afternoon, the 29th June, when the Greek opinion in Salonica was optimistic rather than otherwise as to the chances of a peaceful settlement of all questions between the allies, and none were expecting any outbreak of hostilities in the near future, it was learnt that orders had been received from his headquarters by General Hessabchef, head of the Bulgarian garrison here, to leave Salonica. The same evening the Bulgarians simultaneously attacked the Serbs and Greeks all along the line from Loftera Bay (near Cavalla) to Ishtib, the Greeks being attacked at Loftera and on the south-west slopes of Mount Pangheion and the Serbs at Krivolak and Ishtib. The Greek forces at Pangheion were compelled to retreat towards the River Struma, and those at Loftera were able to embark in sailing-boats and leave for Thasos.

Early on Monday morning the 30th June, Bulgarian troops attacked a small detachment of Serbs near Gheygheli, succeeded in capturing the railway bridge over the Vardar near that town, and shortly afterwards occupied Gheygheli. As a result of this railway communication with Uskub was interrupted and the passenger train which left Salonica early in the morning for Uskub was stopped a short distance beyond Gumendjeli, and subsequently returned to Salonica, arriving about 2 P.M. The line seems to have been occupied by the Bulgarians from Gheygheli to Demir Kapu.

About noon of the same day General Hessabchef left Salonica by train, being allowed by the Greeks to depart on account of his diplomatic character. Military members of his staff, however, being not so protected, were detained by the Greeks at the 24th kilom. from Salonica, and subsequently sent away with other Bulgarian prisoners to Greece.

A Bulgarian attack on Greek forces at Nigrita was also reported on this day.

On Monday morning, the 30th June a large bomb was found in the Monastir station in Salonica. This fact, following on the discovery of explosives, fuses, &c., in the houses of many Bulgarian railway employés, coupled with the knowledge of the Bulgarian general attack on Greek positions on the previous evening and during the day, decided the local authorities to search the houses and confiscate the arms of all Bulgarians in the town. In the afternoon the process of disarmament began, and was applied not only to civilians but also to Bulgarian soldiers found in the

streets. About 3 P.M. a brisk fusilade took place between Greek troops and a number of Bulgarians at the Grand Hotel (in the Vardar Street), from a window in which, according to Greek accounts, a bomb had been thrown by Bulgarian komitajis at a Greek military automobile passing underneath. In the fighting one of the four Bulgarian sentries guarding the Bulgarian post office on the ground floor of the building was killed, another was wounded, and the others were captured. Two Bulgarian civilians were also killed in the fighting.

At the same hour the Bulgarian garrison in Salonica were informed in writing by the Greek general, Callaris, that, the Bulgarian army having commenced hostilities against Greek troops, they would be allowed one hour in which to leave Salonica, their arms to be given up before their departure. A special train was also placed at their disposal. In case of refusal they would be considered and treated as enemies. The Bulgarians refused to accept these proposals. M. Jousselin, French consul here, tried to induce the Bulgarian officer commanding to reconsider his decision, but was unsuccessful.

About half past 6 P.M. the Bulgarians still persisting in their refusal, they were attacked by the Greek troops, and, as recounted in my immediately preceding despatches, all the Bulgarian positions were captured before the morning of the following day. In several of the positions the Bulgarians, though few in number, made a gallant resistance against great odds. The Greeks on their side, and especially the Cretan gendarmes, showed great courage.

According to the Greek official account the Greek casualties in the fighting were 16 killed and 115 wounded, including 4 officers, the Bulgarian casualties being 53 soldiers and 14 komitajis killed and 17 soldiers and 3 komitajis wounded. Fourteen Bulgarian officers, 1,207 soldiers and 80 students and komitajis who had taken part in the fighting were taken prisoners.

On Tuesday morning, the 1st July, gunfire was heard to the north of Salonica, and it was ascertained that Greeks and Bulgarians were engaged in battle in the direction of Salmanli and also to the north of Langaza. The population of Salonica, already acquainted with the news of Bulgarian massacres of civilians in Gheygheli, Seres, and surrounding villages, were naturally alarmed at the proximity of the battle, and for some hours fears of a Bulgarian victory and of their entry into Salonica, and of probable disorders were plainly manifest. These apprehensions were also shared by members of the foreign colonies, and the news of Greek successes which arrived later in the day caused evident relief among all classes. The record of the Bulgarians during the last seven or eight months has not been such as to cause much assurance among the inhabitants of Salonica in the event of a Bulgarian victory.

I have, &c.

JAMES MORGAN.

[32853] No. 357.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 41.)

Sir, *Cettinje, July 11, 1913.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 38 of the 1st July last I have the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of a further despatch received from Vice-Admiral Sir Cecil Burney on the subject of the evacuation of Medua. The Montenegrin Government had agreed at the end of June to hand over at once the customs and post office to the international forces, ensuring the removal in the second fortnight in July of the stores, which were to be left meanwhile in charge of a Montenegrin guard, not exceeding twenty men in number. The vice-admiral has deemed it preferable to postpone taking over the customs and post office until the withdrawal of the Montenegrin guard, but to urge that this should take place on or about the 15th July.

After some delay the Montenegrin Government have now agreed to the complete evacuation of the place on the 16th July as recorded in a note, dated to-day, which is enclosed herewith. The vice-admiral has been duly informed.

I have, &c.

J. DE SALIS.

Enclosure 1 in No. 357

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Count de Salis

Sir, *Scutari, July 3, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo.

I beg to request that the Montenegrin Government may be informed that it has been decided to take over the customs and post office at San Giovanni di Medua when the Montenegrin guard is withdrawn at the time that the merchant (M. Treuden of Trieste) takes charge of the stores there for the purpose of removing them.

It is understood that this will be on about the 15th instant, and I request that it may be pointed out to M. Plamenatz that it is most necessary to adhere as far as possible to this date.

For the purpose of taking over the customs and post office I will send an officer of the international force with the Albanian authorities from Alessio, and he will supervise the transaction. I shall, therefore, be glad to have early information of the date everything will be ready, in order that the necessary arrangements may be made for the attendance of the officer.

I have, &c.
CECIL BURNEY.

Enclosure 2 in No. 357

Count de Salis to Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney

Sir, *Cettinje, July 11, 1913.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 3rd July, I have the honour to inform you that after some delay the Montenegrin Government have ultimately agreed to evacuate San Giovanni di Medua on the 15th July, and to hand it over on that date to the international forces. A copy of the note addressed to me by the Montenegrin Government is enclosed herewith, the substance of it has been telegraphed to you to-day.

I have, &c.
J. DE SALIS.

Enclosure 3 in No. 357

Note communicated to Count de Salis by Montenegrin Minister for Foreign Affairs

LE Ministère royal des Affaires Etrangères a l'honneur d'informer la Légation royale d'Angleterre que le Gouvernement Royal a pris les mesures nécessaires pour que le matériel de guerre soit enlevé du port de Saint-Jean de Medua, ainsi que les troupes monténégrines qui s'y trouvent actuellement jusqu'à 15 juillet nouveau courant. Le port en question sera donc évacué à la date précitée et remis entre les mains du commandant en chef des troupes internationales à Scutari.

Le Ministère Royal des Affaires Etrangères s'empresse de prier la Légation Royale d'Angleterre pour qu'elle veuille bien communiquer ce qui précède à son Excellence l'Amiral Burney.

Cettigne, le 28 juin (11 juillet) 1913.

[32889] No. 358.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 616.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 12, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's vice-consul at the Dardanelles on the subject of the Turkish advance from Bulair.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 358.

Vice-Consul Palmer to Sir G. Louther.

(No. 7. Confidential.)

Sir, *Dardanelles, July 8, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the Turkish divisions stationed at Gallipoli and Bulair have crossed the lines at the latter place and have begun the reoccupation of the Koshan district. The only troops still in the peninsula are the two local Mumsiz redif divisions, and they are expected to move up to Bulair shortly. The troops on this side are expecting to cross to Europe.

There is an air of suppressed excitement noticeable, and it seems that the Turks have hopes of regaining some of their lost territory.

The Asiatic Medjidie fortress has been partially dismantled, five guns being removed from the centre of the works and the two 15-cc. guns from Nagara Tabia are also being removed. To-day two 12-cc. Krupp guns (dated 1870) were removed on bullock carts from the Medjidie for a destination in the hills behind here. The guns were laid flat on the carts and there were no mountings of any nature. These two are probably destined for a new redoubt which has been constructed near Yaghdji Koy, but it is obviously the intention to place the whole seven upon the hills behind here facing Europe. It is, however, intended to fortify by degrees the whole Asiatic line of hills, in order to prevent an eventual attack from Europe. The Turks would appear to have been vastly impressed with the strategical importance lent to Kum Dagh by the Bulgarian big guns mounted there—all attacks being repulsed with tremendous loss.

I hope, in due course to be able to forward plans showing the exact positions of the new forts and the remaining defences of the Medjidie.

A military road is being made from Maitos to Gallipoli and a similar one has already been made from Maitos to Kyrta.

The "Gazi Irmak" went down on the 4th, and on the 5th the "Ou Temooz" passed up with 800 men from Sedd-ul-Bahr.

A Greek rayah was shot as a deserter at Maitos on the 5th. He had apparently deserted and forgot on the Greek side.

I have, &c.
C. E. S. PALMER.

[32977] No. 359.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 17.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 17, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram, dated the 17th instant, from Vice-Admiral Burney relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 359.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *July 17, 1913.*

SAN GIOVANNI DI MEDUA evacuated by Montenegrins yesterday. British officer superintended transfer of Post and Customs offices to-day to Albanians.

[34797] No. 360.

Papers communicated by South Albanian Delegates, July 17, 1913

(1)

Population du District d'Argyrocastro

LA population du district d'Argyrocastro s'élève, d'après le dernier recensement effectué par l'Administration turque à 76,500 habitants, dont 43,500 sont grecs orthodoxes et 27,000 musulmans.

C'est en raison de ce rapport entre l'élément grec et l'élément musulman que lors des dernières élections législatives en Turquie, le nombre des électeurs grecs de second degré fut porté à 56 contre 24 électeurs musulmans.

Les communautés grecques du district sont en possession de 660 églises, de 46 couvents de 176 écoles de garçons, parmi lesquelles 2 écoles secondaires, et 70 écoles de filles. Le personnel enseignant de ces écoles est composé de 295 professeurs et de 81 maîtresses le nombre des élèves se montant à 9,955 garçons et 2,480 filles.

A côté de ces établissements le culte et l'instruction dont l'entretien est assuré par les contributions de la population grecque et par les magnifiques legs faits par les riches patriotes originaires du district, ont pu ranger un certain nombre de travaux d'utilité publique dus à l'initiative et au patriotisme grecs.

Les populations albanaises du district, qui forment une insignifiante minorité, ne peuvent s'enorgueillir d'aucune œuvre due à leur initiative ou collective chose naturelle, d'ailleurs, puisque ces derniers d'autrefois embrassèrent l'islamisme pour devenir des brigands stipendiés et obtenir par ce crime une situation privilégiée vis-à-vis de leurs frères chrétiens fidèles à leur foi et à leurs traditions nationales et pour devenir oppresseurs d'oppressés qu'ils étaient.

Après les victoires des armées helléniques, les Albanais se sont rendus coupables des crimes les plus atroces contre les populations grecques, en satisfaisant ainsi la haine séculaire qu'ils avaient à leur égard, est-il besoin de rappeler la destruction de 200 villages de l'Épire russe par les Albanais et livrés ensuite à l'incendie?

Nous osons insister sur notre prière qu'une commission internationale se rende sur les lieux et y procède aux constatations nécessaires et propres à déterminer une décision de la haute conférence conforme aux sentiments et aux vœux de la population. Cette population, si exaspérée par la longue épreuve et dont une servitude de siècles n'a su altérer le caractère grec ne pourra que recourir aux moyens extrêmes, si contrairement à toute justice, elle se voit menacée d'être remise sous un autre joug musulman plus odieux que ceux qu'elle vient à peine d'être délivrée—témoin les corps de volontaires qui ne manquent de se former tous les jours et indigènes dans toutes les parties du district.

Les Délégués

DR JOSEPH G. BEGNAS.
PIERRE P. ZAPPAS.
AIT G. KAS.
B. ZOUSTIS.
N. M. VLASSIS.
A. BAMICHAS.

Londres, le 17 juillet, 1913.

(2)

A son Excellence Sir Edward Grey, Président, et à leurs Excellences les Ambassadeurs des Grandes Puissances

La population du district de Chimara, par ses deux représentants, comparaît devant la haute assemblée qui forme l'aréopage de l'Europe civilisée appelé à rendre la justice à des peuples qui demandent à reconquérir leur liberté. Bien qu'elle ait fait précédemment appel, par des suppliques transmises télégraphiquement, aux sentiments d'équité de la haute conférence et imploré sa bienveillante décision, elle croit de son devoir d'exposer, à nouveau, son histoire nationale qui peut se résumer ainsi:—

Les habitants de Chimara, grecs depuis la plus haute antiquité, sont demeurés tels, malgré la conquête des pays grecs par Mehmed le Conquérant, dont les successeurs,

après la prise de Constantinople, ont conféré aux chimariotes d'importants privilèges dans le domaine administratif et de l'instruction, parmi lesquels le droit pour la population d'être jugée par le Conseil des Anciens.

Les chimariotes ont lutté pour l'idée hellénique, lors de l'insurrection d'Orlof. Ils ont pris les armes contre Ali Pacha de Janina qui cherchait à les subjuguer et soutenu la lutte de 1797 à 1816. Vaincus, ils ont été bannis à Louros et à Salaora, d'où, après la mort du Tyran, ceux d'entre eux qui avaient survécu aux souffrances et aux privations sont rentrés dans leur pays natal.

Ils se sont soulevés en 1821 et ont combattu partout où la nation grecque a lutté pour sa liberté.

Il importe de signaler que lorsque, en 1909, les Jeunes-Turcs, au comble de leur puissance, tentèrent d'abolir les privilèges dont avait joui de tout temps la population de Chimara et qu'ils eurent, à cet effet, recours à la force armée, les habitants s'y opposèrent et leurs privilèges leur furent conservés.

Après le 5 novembre 1912, Chimara sous l'impulsion de son âme grecque, marcha en avant. Le drapeau grec flotta fièrement sur ses remparts, car ses enfants parvinrent à repousser seuls durant cinq mois les attaques des bandes albanaises, qui aidés à l'armée turque, dévastaient les autres parties de l'Épire.

Chimara avait conservé sa liberté sous l'Administration ottomane, elle offrait l'unique exemple d'une démocratie au sein de la Turquie. A la suite des événements de 1912 elle a atteint son idéal, l'union avec la Grèce sa mère patrie.

La justice de l'Europe pourra-t-elle admettre que la civilisation fût asservie à la barbarie? Car c'est bien dans un état barbare que les Albanais se trouvent par rapport à la population de Chimara, qui représente l'élément civilisé. Nous avons su conserver, à travers les siècles et malgré de rudes épreuves, notre foi orthodoxe—ce qui fut aussi celle des Albanais, et qu'ils renièrent pour tirer des avantages de la Tyrannie et pour devenir tyrans eux-mêmes—foi que le conquérant ottoman a respectée.

Parmi nos écoles qui ont toutes des ressources propres, il en est dont l'existence date de 150 ans. Les Albanais n'ont point d'écoles.

Nous avons la conscience d'une nationalité—une conscience séculaire malthusienne, forte et nous avons défendu cette nationalité pendant des siècles par des luttes sanglantes.

Au nom de la civilisation, nous demandons justice à la haute conférence. Nous lui demandons de ne pas nous priver de ce qui nous était acquis avant les derniers événements, grâce aux efforts de nos pères et à leur sang versé, et aussi de ce que nous avons pu obtenir depuis par nos efforts et nos sacrifices personnels.

Si, toutefois, contre toute justice divine et humaine, la haute conférence en décide autrement, nous protestons auprès d'elle et devant l'Europe civilisée, et déclarons que nous aimerons mieux nous ensevelir sous les ruines de nos demeures et mêler notre cendre à celle de nos pères plutôt que de nous qualifier d'Albanais car nous ne le fûmes jamais, étant Grecs de tout temps.

Les Anciens des Villages de Chimara,

De Palassa—
George, *Prêtre.*
Chr. Economos.

De Vouno—
Aristide, *Prêtre.*
Spyros Panos.

De Pylouri—
Costas, *Prêtre.*
Christos Prifti.

De Kyparo—
Costuras, *Prêtre.*
S. Lekkos.

De Loukovo—
H. Economou.
Ch. Giossakis.

De Drymades—
Nikolas, *Prêtre.*
L. Zappas.

De Chimara—
Spyridon, *Prêtre.*
Christos Panos.

De Cardesi—
Aristidou, *Prêtre.*
Danos Zanos.

De Pikerni—
A. Boutas.
G. Kontras.

De St. Basile—
D. Martikos.
B. Papachristou.

De Nivitza
Kontros, *Prêtre*.
A. Giakompidis.

De Hontetsovo—
D Gikoulis.
Christ. Stephanis.

Chimara, le 18 *juin* (1er *juillet*), 1913.

(3.)

Procuration.

(Traduction.)

La population entière d'Argyrocastro et des villages d'Argyrocastro, réunie en meeting les armes à la main, le 5 (18) juin 1913, a manifesté solennellement, par un plébiscite, les sentiments purement grecs de tous les habitants les districts de l'Épire du Nord, c'est à dire ceux d'Argyrocastro, Premet Tepeléni, Delvino et Chimara, et déclare la décision inébranlable des habitants de se séparer à aucun prix de leur mère, la Grèce, et de résister de toute leur force contre toute soumission au joug odieux des Albanais. En conséquence, elle nous a nommés ses mandataires à l'effet de faire, d'une part par télégramme, appel à S. Exc. le Président du Conseil des Ministres, les Affaires Étrangères d'Angleterre Sir Edward Grey en sa qualité de président de la conférence des Ambassadeurs à Londres, et le délégué, d'autre part un courrier spécial avec mission de se rendre à Londres.

Les exécuteurs de cette volonté nous ayant été ainsi confié par le peuple, nous nommons M. Basile Justo, comme représentant les districts d'Argyrocastro, M. Joseph Bessas, comme représentant ceux de Premet, M. Pierre Zappas, comme représentant de celui de l'Épire, M. Charistocle Bonicas, comme représentant de celui de Delvino, M. Spyridon Loris comme représentant le district de Chimara, auxquels nous donnons le mandat de se présenter devant la haute conférence des Ambassadeurs à Londres, de manière à faire valoir les droits de ces districts grecs de faire partie intégrante du Royaume de Grèce, protection légitime tant au point de vue ethnologique que sous tout autre rapport et le demander au nom de la chrétienne justice à l'Europe civilisée. Nous devons protester contre toute autre solution tendant à nous placer de nouveau sous le joug musulman albanais déclarer respectueusement que les habitants desdits districts se trouveront toujours la nécessité de ne pas accéder à une solution qui n'aura pas été conforme à leurs sentiments nationaux et à la conscience chrétienne, et soumettre la prière, qu'en cas de toute prévention d'une raison quelconque, la haute conférence des Ambassadeurs veuille bien, avant toute discussion, faire vérifier, par une commission spéciale le caractère ethnologique du pays et la volonté de ses habitants.

Les Membres du Comité,
P. Zotides
M. Tsakos.
N. Godelias.
Ch. Lichomanes.
Ch. Callias.
P. Litos.
Ch. Papadopoulos
A. Dimas
G. Massios.
J. Lampovitiadis.
S. Fidis.

Argyrocastro, le 17 (30) *juin* 1913.

Vu pour légalisation des signatures apposées ci-dessus de MM. les membres du comité.

Le Métropolitain d'Argyrocastro, Delvino, Chimara, et tout Chaonie,
BASILE.

Argyrocastro, le 17 (30) *juin*, 1913.

[32841] No. 361

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 284.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 16, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 282 of 15th July.

Prime Minister has just informed me that application of Bulgarian fiscal regime to occupied territory will be suspended.

This should prevent procedure mentioned in my telegram No. 264 of 11th July.

[32842] No. 362.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 285.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 16, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 260 of 8th July. Cabinet crisis.

Cabinet has resigned. Endeavour is being made to form a Ministry representing all parties.

[32843] No. 363.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 286.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 16, 1913.*

PRIME Minister says that Bulgaria is now in great straits. He is making strong appeal to Russian Government to hold back Roumanian army at all costs, urging especially point that Roumanian Government should make known their desires.

Roumanian troops have now reached Vratsa, only three hours by rail from Sophia, and inhabitants, consisting solely of old men and women and children, are fleeing before them. Thousands of non-combatants are starving.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[32918] No. 364.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 287. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 16, 1913.*

AUSTRIAN Minister asked me yesterday whether I had any news respecting probable action of his Government in view of present situation. I replied in the negative. He then said that his Government could never tolerate division of Macedonia between Servia and Greece as now suggested, and that he thought the best course to be autonomy of Macedonia, which must be proposed either in London or at special European conference.

Austrians are now as depressed as they were elated three weeks ago.

I believe that Servia and Greece will fight desperately to obtain coterminous frontier, and that autonomy of Macedonia is now impossible. Should Austria invade sanjak, Russia is bound to aid Servia, and we are then faced with European war.

German special military attaché here, who is directly personally in communication with the German Emperor, tells me that His Imperial Majesty is very loth to join Austria over Macedonian question, and has repeatedly told him so. Austrian threats would in this case be merely further endeavours to blackmail the Powers as in matter of Scutari, the more as the Emperor of Austria is so averse to war.

If the Powers intervene at Constantinople in favour of Bulgaria, whom Austria regards as her natural ally against Servia, would it not be reasonable that Austria should consent not to interfere in the Greek, Servian, and Bulgarian settlement?

[32983] No. 365.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 17.*)

(No. 288.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 16, 1913.*

AT meeting of representatives of Great Powers to-day we agreed, first, that, unless otherwise instructed, we should remain at Sophia even if Government and Court left; secondly that the continued advance of the Roumanian and Ottoman troops was likely to have the most serious consequences if not immediately stopped.

We agreed to telegraph to our Governments in above sense.

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest and Belgrade.)

[32809] No. 366.

Joint Telegram addressed to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 17.*)

Salonica, July 16, 1913.

BULGARIAN army destroyed Serres. Fear our properties there, amounting to several hundred thousand pounds, have been also ruined. Holding Bulgarian Government responsible damages. Understand same to-day awaits Xanthie, and beg that energetic steps should be immediately taken for safeguarding our people and most important interests there.—COMMERCIAL COMPANY OF SALONICA (Limited), MACEDONIAN TOBACCO COMPANY (Limited), TURKISH TOBACCO EXPORT COMPANY (Limited), M. MAYER AND CO. (Limited), THE ORIENTAL TRADING TOBACCO COMPANY (Limited), and B. MORATTI, SONS, AND CO. (Limited).

[32984] No. 367.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 17.*)

(No. 289.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 17, 1913.*

RUSSIAN and Austrian Ministers have urged their Governments to request Roumanian Government to instruct military authorities not to cut telegraphs in Bulgarian territory, the more as they are not meeting with opposition. French, German, and Italian Ministers are doing the same.

I should be grateful if you could instruct His Majesty's Minister at Bucharest similarly.

Should the line be cut Sophia will be isolated as cable is not available owing to Roumanian occupation of Varna.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

[32934] No. 368.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 17.*)

(No. 105.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Bucharest, July 17, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from military attaché for Director of Military Operations:

"Official bulletin states that Roumanian troops are now in possession of the whole of the right bank of the Danube, and that cavalry patrols have been pushed well into the country.

"I understand that an aeroplane reconnaissance over Vidin and Belogradchik failed to discover Bulgarian troops, so Bulgarian 1st Army has probably been moved south."

(Sent to Sophia, Constantinople, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[32982] No. 369.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 17.*)

(No. 106.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 17, 1913.*

THE French and Russian Ministers yesterday, under instructions, urged the Roumanian Government not to advance troops on Sophia, and French Minister also under instructions, asked Minister for Foreign Affairs whether Roumania would be willing that a settlement should be reached by means of mediation of the Powers.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs emphatically rejected the latter suggestion and insisted on direct conversation between the five belligerents.

Minister for Foreign Affairs said that the Roumanian Government had no intention of pushing matters further than necessary, but they could not arrest the advance of their troops until arrangements had been made for the meeting of the delegates of the belligerents to discuss the peace preliminaries. At the same time, advance of troops did not involve increase of Roumanian demands, which were as stated in the circular addressed to the Powers yesterday.

Minister for Foreign Affairs suggested Simaia or else a steamer on the Danube as suitable for the meeting of the five delegates, and said that preparations for the evacuation of the Roumanian troops would not be hurried, so as to give time for arranging meeting.

Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[32973] No. 370.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 17.*)

(No. 110. Confidential.)
Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 17, 1913.*

COUNT BERCHTOLD left for Ischl on 15th July to see Emperor, and His Majesty has asked him to remain another day to discuss situation. I am informed that grave resolutions are likely to be taken at Ischl, and I gather that the chief point which will be discussed is how far Austria can consent to the creation of a too great Servia. Question of Vardar frontier will, I believe, be discussed. Austria would like Monastir to go to Greece and it is thought here that Greece will have to give up idea of joining her eastern frontier with that of Turkey. Greek Minister here is urging his Government to act with moderation.

Austrian advice to Bulgaria is that she should lose no time in coming to terms with Roumania, and that she should immediately at once and appeal to Europe, placing her case unreservedly in the hands of the Powers. Opinion is gaining ground here that there are only two issues to the present complicated situation—general war, or calling together of a European congress, presumably prepared to give a mandate to Russia and Austria by menace of intervention to bring any recalcitrant Balkan State to accept decisions of the Powers.

I am informed that, if Russia should intervene to save Bulgaria, it would be very difficult for this country to remain aside and do nothing.

Rumours current here to-day that Count Berchtold will offer his resignation to the Emperor are, I am informed, unfounded.

[32994] No. 371.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 17.*)

(No. 111.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 17, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from military attaché for Director of Military Operations:—

"Information from good source states that certain movements have taken place in 12th corps area as a result of unrest among Austrian Roumanians.

"Exchange of reservists has taken place, but numbers have not been increased.

"In Bosnia troops have again been pushed forward to the frontier."

[32969] No. 372

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 114.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Postilipo, July 17, 1913.*

YOUR telegram of the 15th July.

The question has been referred to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Meanwhile, yesterday the Turkish Embassy announced to the Italian Foreign Office that Turkey did not intend to advance beyond Enos-Midia line and only contemplated establishing a neutral zone between the Turkish and Bulgarian positions.

[32972] No. 373

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 341.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Constantinople, July 17, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 339 of the 15th July.

Staff-officer returned last night and reports situation at Rodosto, though undoubtedly very threatening on Monday, has much improved, and that condition of the town is nearly normal. Estimates of persons killed vary from twenty-five to sixty, who, except a few Bulgarian gendarmes, were practically all of the lowest class. There are, however, reports which it was impossible to check, that many Greeks have been killed in the neighbouring villages.

[32979] No. 374

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 98.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 17, 1913.*

BULGARIAN Minister has asked me to telegraph to you a further telegram which he has received from the King of the Bulgarians, dated to-day, and a memorandum left by M. Stancioff. They do not, however, contain anything material beyond what I telegraphed to you in my telegram No. 95 of yesterday except that there are in Bulgaria about 80,000 Turkish prisoners who are not well guarded, and that they even the troops are advancing they may take to massacring.

I am sending by to-day's bag copies of telegram and memorandum in question.

[32974] No. 375

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 128.)
(Telegraphic.) *Decode* *Athens, July 17, 1913.*

FRENCH Minister is sending Secretary of Legation to report on Bulgarian atrocities.

[32992] No. 376.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 107. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 17, 1913.*

I HAVE just had a visit from late Roumanian Minister at Sophia, who told me confidentially that just before he left Sophia on 11th July Austrian Minister remarked to him that any settlement of Balkan quarrel which gave Monastir and Ochrida to Servia would leave Austria dissatisfied unless she received compensation in sanjak.

(Sent to Vienna, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[32993] No. 377.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 266.)
(Telegraphic.) R *St. Petersburgh, July 17, 1913.*

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs expressed great satisfaction at language you have held at Constantinople. He fears military party is forcing hand of Grand Vizier and he has again protested in strong terms against the contemplated advance on Adrianople.

[32975] No. 378.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 343.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 17, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 318 of 11th July.

Turkish authorities state that navigation may be regarded as safe at all places on Turkish coast-line except the Gulf of Smyrna, Straits of the Dardanelles, Bosphorus, and "certain places on shore of the Sea of Marmora." They add that mines have not been removed, as state of war exists.

[33542] No. 379.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 336.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

YOU should, when all your colleagues are similarly authorised, associate yourself in the collective step which the French representative has been instructed to propose to you, to urge the Porte to send orders to the troops to conform to the treaty signed at London and to withdraw to the Enos-Midia line.

[32792] No. 380.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Paget.

(No. 111.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN Embassy state that Servian Government continue to collect excise and high additional duties under name of war contribution, in spite of collective representations made by Powers on 30th March.

Austro-Hungarian Government accordingly ask us to protest again at Belgrade, and you may do this as soon as all your colleagues receive similar instructions.

[33111] No. 381

Sir Edward Grey to Earl Granville. *

(No. 275.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 228 of 17th July to Vienna.

You should inform Minister for Foreign Affairs.

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* Also to Sir F. Bertie (No. 286), Sir G. Buchanan (No. 541), and Sir R. Rodd (No. 219).

[33111] No. 382.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright

(No. 228.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

AUSTRIAN Ambassador has given me the view of Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, to the effect that any action by the Powers should be directed to an invitation to cessation of hostilities in first instance, leaving territorial questions to be settled by belligerent States directly or through mediation of Powers, whose consent to division of territory would, in any case, be necessary eventually.

I have replied that an invitation to cease hostilities will at once raise territorial question. Greece and Servia will stipulate for territorial terms as a condition of cessation of hostilities.

It appeared to me, therefore, that Powers could do little unless they were in substantial agreement about territorial settlement.

As far as I knew the views held at Vienna and St. Petersburgh were not irreconcilable on two cardinal points of division of Macedonia —

1. That Greece and Servia should have a conterminous frontier;
2. That Bulgaria should retain a port in the Ægean and not be entirely excluded by Greece.

This port would, in effect, I suppose, have to be Cavalla. If neither Austria nor Russia were going to raise objections to either of these cardinal points I did not see why there should not be substantial agreement between the Powers, and they would be in a position to urge that hostilities should cease and settlement be left in their hands.

(Repeated to Berlin, No. 274; Paris, No. 285; St. Petersburgh, No. 540; and Rome, No. 218.)

[32809] No. 383.

Sir Edward Grey to Acting Consul-General Morgan.

(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 151 to Sir H. Bax-Ironside of 17th July. Tobacco interests in Macedonia.

Please inform tobacco companies.

[32809] No. 384.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 151.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

BRITISH tobacco companies state all their property at Serres destroyed by Bulgarian army, and express fear that same thing will happen at Xanthi.

You should inform Bulgarian Government that we hold them responsible for loss, and urge them to send stringent orders to stop repetition of such action elsewhere.

(Repeated to Salonica.)

[33606] No. 385.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 458.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

I TOLD the French Ambassador to-day of what had passed with the Austrian Ambassador about the cessation of hostilities and territorial division in the Balkans.

The French Ambassador agreed with my view, but he raised the question of how Greece was to be turned out of such places as Kavalla, even if the Powers were agreed. He said that he had already expressed the opinion to the Greek Minister that Greece should not claim Kavalla. He also raised the question of what was to be done if the Turks refused to listen to the Powers about the Enos-Media line.

I said that we might at any rate tell the Turks that, if they retired within the Enos-Media line, the financial commission in Paris would not saddle them with any indemnity, and would make matters easy for them financially, whereas, if they disregarded the wishes of the Powers, they would get no financial assistance in such things. As to turning the Greeks out of Kavalla, I agreed that we should not like to take part against Greece; but the Powers could hardly move in the matter at all till they felt that they were more or less in agreement between themselves as to the territorial settlement in the Balkans.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[30424] No. 386.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Elliot.

(No. 80.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

WITH reference to your despatch No. 142 of the 27th ult. mo., stating that your Austrian colleague had not yet received instructions to make representations to the Greek Government regarding the preferential treatment of Greek produce in Crete, I have to inform you that a telegram has been despatched to His Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna instructing him to request the Austro-Hungarian Government to authorise their Minister at Athens as soon as possible to join in the proposed representation.

With regard to the question of a collective representation to the Greek Government respecting the sanitary service in the territories occupied by the allies, I transmit to you herewith copies of correspondence, which will show the action taken by His Majesty's Government in the matter.*

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[33155] No. 387.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 148.)
Sir *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

THE Austrian Ambassador told me to-day that he had the following instructions with regard to bringing the question of Mount Athos before the meeting —

"Les couvents du Mont-Athos forment une république autonome, indépendante et neutre.

"Il est donc interdit aux bâtiments de guerre des autres Puissances de s'arrêter—sauf en cas de force majeure—dans les eaux de la presqu'île.

"Pour exercer la police maritime et sanitaire le long de la côte la communauté pourrait entretenir des bâtiments, à l'exclusion de sous-marins, d'un tonnage qui ne dépasse pas 300 tonneaux chacun, armés de canons d'un calibre de 7 cm. au maximum, mais sans installation pour lancer des torpilles ou pour poser des mines. Le nombre des bâtiments de service ne devrait pas excéder deux.

"Tout le territoire qui constitue la presqu'île portant le nom de Mont-Athos est la propriété complète et exclusive des vingt grands monastères situés sur la Sainte-Montagne.

"Les nouveaux arrivants ne peuvent s'établir sur la presqu'île qu'en prenant chez ces monastères des parcelles de territoire en ferme. Il est entendu que les communautés religieuses orthodoxes de toutes les Puissances auront le droit d'affermer des terres pour leurs établissements religieux. L'établissement d'éléments nouveaux sur le Mont-Athos est domaine exclusif de l'administration intérieure soumis aux antiques usages locaux.

"Aucun État orthodoxe ne jouira au Mont-Athos d'une situation privilégiée ou exclusive, il se soumettra au pouvoir canonique avec une religieuse observation des usages de la Sainte-Montagne."

* "Eastern Sanitary Reforms" Print [6996], [10588], [13370], [14006], [19048].

I said that we could not possibly take up the discussion of the question of Mount Athos at the *reunion* just now. Our hands were full. At the last meeting we had been for considerably more than two hours occupied with the discussion of the question of the organisation of Albania. At the next meeting, in addition to the further discussion of this question, unless someone made positive objection, I should make a proposal that a commission should be appointed to delimit the southern portion of Albania on the condition that Koritza and Stylos should go to Albania, provided it was understood that Servia and Greece were to be allowed to have a conterminous frontier in Macedonia, and that the Ægean islands, as previously stipulated, should go to Greece. I would therefore suggest that Count Mensdorff should communicate to us copies of Count Berchtold's view about Mount Athos that it might be taken into discussion when it was possible to do so.

Count Mensdorff said that there had been no settlement with regard to Mount Athos, and this must be clearly understood.

I said that, when the Russian Government had put forward a proposal and the Austrian Government had raised only two points with regard to it, and these had been accepted, I had assumed that no one wished to say anything further about Mount Athos, and the discussion had come to an end; but technically the Austrian Government were within their right in saying that no definite resolution had been recorded.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[33607] No. 388.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 219.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

IN speaking to Count Mensdorff to-day of the possibility of getting an agreement about the organisation of Albania so long as there was nothing in the draft proposal to raise a presumption that the control of the Powers would cease when the commission came to an end, I pointed out that, when he and the Italian Ambassador had suggested the elimination of the suzerainty of the Sultan, they had done so on the ground that, as the suzerainty was already in case to be purely nominal, the change was not of importance and, as Turkey did not wish to maintain the suzerainty, there was no possible reason for doing so. If it had been stated at the time that with the suzerainty of the Sultan was to disappear the need for control by the Powers, the matter would have assumed a very different aspect.

Count Mensdorff said that there had been developments of view in Vienna.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[33976] No. 389.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.[*]

(No. 152.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

IN the course of to-day, before the *reunion* met, I saw the French and Russian Ambassadors together, the German Ambassador separately, and the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors together.

I found that the Russian Government favoured a naval demonstration against Turkey, and the Russian Ambassador told me that he did not think that Russia could allow Turkey to remain at Adrianople.

The French Ambassador told me that his Government would agree to a naval demonstration if all the other Powers agreed, but his Government doubted its efficacy, and did not see what was to be done if it failed.

I said that I did not suppose that the British Government would separate themselves from the other Powers if they decided on a naval demonstration, but I

[*] Also to Sir F. Bertie (No. 460), Sir E. Goschen (No. 234), Sir R. Rodd (No. 187), and Sir G. Buchanan (No. 258).

doubted its efficacy. The only alternative seemed to be continuous pressure and refusal on every opportunity of all support and help to the Turkish Government until they accepted the Enos-Midia line.

The French Ambassador observed to me that the Turkish Government would not be very frightened by the refusal of financial help. They knew that several of the Powers had already such financial interests in Turkey that they could not allow a Turkish financial collapse.

I said that, nevertheless, if financial help was given owing to this consideration in the last resort, it might imply an amount of European control that would not be very favourable to Turkey.

The Russian Ambassador gave me to understand that very good progress had been made between St. Petersburgh and Vienna in adjusting the views of the two Governments as to what the settlement between the Balkan States should be. M. Sazonof wished, therefore, that the question should be brought before the *reunion*, that the five belligerents should meet where they ceased, and draw up their own terms of peace, but that these should be subject to the revision of the Powers at a conference afterwards.

I observed that after what I had said in Parliament when the *réunion* was first instituted such a conference could not well be in London.

M. Cambon said that it would come naturally from me, after what I had said in Parliament, to propose that the conference should be in Paris; but he had some information that the Germans were likely to object to Paris.

The Russian Ambassador said that, in that event, the conference might be at The Hague.

I said that it seemed scarcely necessary to mention the conference just yet.

I spoke to the German Ambassador of the difficulties about a naval demonstration against Turkey, and of the satisfactory rapprochement between Russian and Austrian views about a settlement between the Balkan States.

Subsequently I spoke in the same sense to the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors.

The Austrian Ambassador told me that he was prepared to agree to the ten years for the Commission of Control for the organisation of Albania provided that all the rest of the Austro-Italian project was accepted.

I explained to him and the Italian Ambassador that I was sorry that they had not accepted the amendment of the French Ambassador to their project, because the visits to Rome and Vienna of Essad Pasha, and the intrigues of men like Ismail Kemal, had created the suspicion that there was a sort of tame Provisional Government in Albania already, domesticated by Austria and Italy, and in fact their creature, and that the intention was to get the Powers to recognise this Government.

The Austrian Ambassador assured me that there was no foundation for this suspicion.

I said that, though I did not share it myself, they must find some words for their project that would dissipate the suspicion.

The Ambassadors asked me whether I could say anything about the delimitation of the south of Albania, but the Italian Ambassador urged that the Ægean islands must not be mentioned in connection with it because the situation was so entirely changed by the large and unexpected acquisition of territory that Greece was to obtain.

I said that I did not think that the inclusion of Koritza and Stylos in Albania could be agreed to without an understanding about the islands.

This preface should make the following account of the proceedings of the *reunion* to-day intelligible:

"Sir E. Grey exprime l'avis que les États belligérants: Roumanie, Serbie, Grèce, Monténégro et Bulgarie—doivent être encouragés à réunir leurs plénipotentiaires afin de mettre un terme aux hostilités et de rechercher les conditions d'un accord pour le rétablissement de la paix.

"Les arrangements à intervenir seront soumis à l'examen et à l'approbation des Puissances, qui s'entendront à cet effet.

"L'avis de Sir E. Grey ne soulève aucune objection de la part des Ambassadeurs, qui le soumettront à l'approbation de leurs Gouvernements.

"Le Comte Mensdorff dit que l'amendement de l'Ambassadeur de France à l'alinéa 7 ne paraît pas devoir être accepté par son Gouvernement. Il déclare, ainsi que le Marquis Imperiali, que la prolongation à dix années des pouvoirs de la Commission de Contrôle serait acceptée si l'ensemble des propositions était adopté.

"Sir E. Grey propose de rédiger l'alinéa 7 de la façon suivante —

"'Le Prince sera nommé dans un délai de six mois au plus tard. En attendant la désignation du Prince, le fonctionnement de l'administration, y compris la gendarmerie, sera contrôlé par la commission internationale, avec le concours des autorités locales.'

"Sir E. Grey exprime, à titre personnel, l'opinion que les Puissances ne peuvent se dérober à l'obligation qu'elles ont assumée de délimiter la ligne Enos-Midia pour fixer la frontière turco-bulgare

"Le fait de l'avance des troupes turques au delà de cette ligne soulève une question que Sir E. Grey doit soumettre au Cabinet, et il désire que les Ambassadeurs veuillent bien s'enquérir des vues de leurs Gouvernements à ce sujet."

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[33608] No. 390.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 109.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

THE Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires came to see me to-day. He referred to an article in the "Times" to the effect that Bulgaria had no right to appeal to the Powers, and he said that, if that was my view, he supposed that I thought he had no right to come to see me.

I said that I certainly thought that Bulgaria had brought these consequences upon herself. She had added greatly to the embarrassments of Europe, and she had no right to expect others to interfere to save her from the consequences of her own action. The outrages at Seres reported by the Greeks had now been confirmed to me by one of our own consular authorities, and this sort of thing of course alienated sympathy. As a matter of fact, it was probable that the Powers would make a collective representation in Constantinople that Turkey should keep within the Enos-Media line. We ourselves had already spoken in this sense, and I had added the warning that if Turkey embarked on a forward policy, she might provoke consequences as disastrous to her as those that the forward policy of Bulgaria had brought upon Bulgaria. I could hardly use stronger language than this.

The Chargé d'Affaires then spoke with much emotion of the situation. With regard to the alleged Bulgarian outrages, he told me that he had asked many times in the last fortnight his position with his own Government by telling them that, if one tenth of what was stated was true, it would be far worse for Bulgaria than a defeat in battle.

I said that I respected his personal feelings in this matter.

He then said that no doubt blame must rest upon the Bulgarian authorities for the course that events had taken in the renewal of the war, but, whatever faults might be laid at the door of Dr. Daneff, the Chargé d'Affaires thought that he was being blamed excessively, for he had been willing to go to St. Petersburgh. The Chargé d'Affaires spoke with great feeling of the deplorable situation in Sophia.

I said that there was more than one authority in Bulgaria: there was the King, the Government, and the military authorities. It was not for me to say who was to blame; but I could assure him that I felt that, whatever mistakes had been made, a whole nation ought not to suffer excessively for the mistakes of one individual or a few individuals. I assured him that my sympathy was with him personally in his feeling about the matter.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[31158] No. 391.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Elliot.

(No. 81.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter which I have received from Messrs. Teofani and Co. (Limited) regarding their interests at Cavalla, and of the reply I have returned thereto *

In view of the fact that a Greek occupation of Cavalla has now succeeded the Bulgarian, you should request the Greek Government to give the necessary instructions to secure the company's immunity from interference in the future.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[31158] No. 392.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Teofani and Co.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July 17, 1913.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant expressing the fear that your interests at Cavalla may suffer through the interference of the Bulgarian authorities.

In view of the fact that a Greek occupation of Cavalla has now succeeded the Bulgarian, Sir E. Grey has instructed His Majesty's Minister at Athens to bring the facts mentioned in your letter to the notice of the Greek Government, and to request them to give the necessary instructions to secure your company's immunity from interference in the future.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[33017] No. 393.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 42.)
Sir, *Cettinjé, July 12, 1913.*

ON the conclusion of the arrangement reported in my preceding despatch for the evacuation of San Giovanni di Medua on the 16th July, the Montenegrin Government addressed to the representatives of the Powers the note, of which I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy, insisting on the sincerity of their intention to evacuate Albanian territory on which, after the 16th of this month not a single Montenegrin soldier would be left.

In thanking M. Plamenatz for this communication, which would be brought at once to your notice, I was obliged to say that I had just received a complaint from Vice-Admiral Sir Cecil Burney that a post of Montenegrin gendarmerie had been placed in charge of the village of Oboti, on the Boyana. The place (which is of some importance, since, as it is the highest point to which steamers of a certain draught can ascend the river, goods for Scutari are unloaded there) appeared to be within the 10-kilometre radius of Scutari, and therefore expressly under the charge of the international forces. Incidents of this kind might easily serve to throw doubts on the good faith of the Montenegrin Government.

M. Plamenatz explained that it had been their intention to establish a post at Goritza, which was, it was understood, to be on the future frontier line between Montenegro and Albania, but their men, not finding accommodation there, had gone to Oboti. It was agreed between us that orders should be sent at once to recall them.

I have, &c.
J. DE SALIS.

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* Nos. 119 and 392.

Enclosure in No. 393.

M. Plamenatz to Count de Salis.

M. le Ministre, *Cettigne, le 28 juin (11 juillet),* 1913

LE Gouvernement Royal, à la suite de certains bruits qui ont pour but de faire croire que le Montenégro n'a pas l'intention d'evacuer l'Albanie, trouve nécessaire de communiquer à votre Excellence les faits suivants avec la priere de bien vouloir les communiquer à votre Gouvernement, si possible par la voie la plus courte —

Le Montenégro par dépêche, en date du 21 avril (4 mai), année courante, informait son Excellence Sir Edward Grey, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de la Grande Bretagne, qu'il remettait le sort de la ville de Scutari entre les mains des Grandes Puissances d'Europe et le 2 (15) mai passé il evacuait la ville de Scutari et ses environs, en laissant seulement 1,000 hommes à Tarabosche et à Siroka pour garder le matériel de guerre et alors au transport de celui-ci, et cela d'après un accord fait entre le représentant du Gouvernement Royal et les chefs des divisions navales internationales.

Le 21 mai (2 juin) le Ministère Royal de la Guerre a réduit le nombre de nos soldats sur Tarabosche et Siroka à 200 hommes seulement et le 26 mai (8 juin) il donnait l'ordre de ne pas laisser un seul homme à Scutari et ses environs.

A cette date il ne restait sur le territoire de l'Albanie que 120 hommes, à Saint-Jean-de-Medua, qui y étaient indispensables pour garder le matériel et les provisions militaires et aider à l'embarquement de celles-ci pour le port d'Antivari.

Le 3 (16) juin la garnison de Medua a été réduite par un ordre du Ministère Royal de la Guerre à soixante hommes seulement, que la maladie a réduit à son tour à quarante-cinq qui le 2 (15) juillet procain quitteront définitivement Saint-Jean-de-Medua.

Après cette date un seul soldat monténégrin ne se trouverait plus en Albanie. Le Gouvernement Royal, après avoir cédé au conseil de ses amis sur la question principale, était décidé de se conformer à leur volonté sur toutes les autres questions.

Les bruits qu'on faisait courir sur l'intention du Monténégro de rester en Albanie, qu'il avait cependant gagnée avec le sang des meilleurs de ses fils, étaient induces dans un but tendancieux et inamical pour le Montenegro.

Veuillez &c.
I. PLAMENATZ.

330611] No. 394

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 619.)
Sir, *Constantinople July* 13, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's acting consul-general at Salonica reporting on Greco-Bulgarian hostilities since the outbreak of war.

I venture to suggest that a copy of enclosed despatch might be forwarded to the War Office.

I have, &
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 394.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir G. Louther.

(No. 64. Confidential.)
Sir, *Salonica July* 6, 1913.

IN continuation of my immediately preceding despatch, I have the honour to report that in the evening of Tuesday, the 1st July, the King of Greece arrived on board the "Sphacteria," and early on the following morning, the 2nd July, left for Alvaly with his staff, the headquarters being shortly afterwards transferred to Baldja.

It was now known that the Greek forces were meeting with unexpected success, and news of Servian successes in the Ishtib region helped to increase the content of the Greeks.

During the course of the day the Greek troops, in spite of accurate Bulgarian artillery fire, succeeded in driving the Bulgarian troops before them, and, after capturing Avret Hissar, continued their march towards Kukush (Kukish) where the Bulgarians were reported to be strongly entrenched. A number of strategical points were taken on this day, but the town of Kukush and part of the surrounding heights still remained in the hands of the Bulgarians and were only captured after a three days' battle.

Simultaneously, Greek troops were engaged in fighting Bulgarians at Zarovo (north of Langaza) and before Nigrita.

On Thursday, the 3rd July, the Greek troops operating on the right bank of the Vardar retook Gheyghelı from the Bulgarians, and crossing the river marched towards the lofile of Furka (north-west of Doiran).

On the same day the Greek troops, after a battle in which they were victorious and captured 1,500 prisoners occupied Nigrita, where the Bulgarians in retiring had carried out a general massacre of the inhabitants without distinction of age or sex.

On Friday, the 4th July, after fighting lasting three days, in which the Bulgarian artillery was handled with great skill, the Greeks succeeded in capturing all the Bulgarian positions near Kukush, but the Bulgarians still fought, and the town of Kukush fell into their hands. On the same day Lahana on the Salonica–Serres road was occupied by them, and hopes are entertained of a speedy capture of Serres.

According to eye-witnesses the Greek troops showed astonishing courage and enthusiasm. The Bulgarian artillery fire is unanimously described as being of remarkable accuracy. Last night, when the centre of the enemy's strategy entrenched, seems to have been able to check the Greek advance on one or other of these quarters the Bulgarian soldiers seemed to have been seized with panic and to have fled in disorder.

The disposition of the Greek forces would seem to have been as follows —

The 10th division, composed mostly of Evzones, operated on the west bank of the Vardar, and, moving up from Gumenjeh, recaptured Gheyghelı from the Bulgarians, and, crossing the Vardar storming the heights of Furka, and are now reported to have taken Doiran.

The 3rd, 4th and 5th Divisions, joined on Tuesday, the 1st July, by the 2nd division, coming from Salonica after capturing the Bulgarian garrison here moved northward from Salonica, and, coming in contact with the Bulgarian forces, drove them back, captured Avret Hissar, and, after three days' fighting, the town of Kukush.

A part of the 8th division moved north from Salonica, keeping between the 10th Division on the one hand and the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th on the other.

The 6th division moved up from Langaza and pushed along the Salonica–Serres road, keeping in touch with the four divisions on its left and the 1st division on its right. It captured Lugovan (Nogovan), and co-operated with the 1st division in the capture of Lahana.

The 1st division coming up from the south-east, captured Lahana, and joined up with the 6th division both then moving on towards Orleko (Orljak). Twelve Bulgarian guns and three machine-guns are reported captured from the Bulgarians at Lahana.

The 7th division moving north along the west side of the Tuminos Lake, defeated a Bulgarian force near Nigrita, capturing that town and 1,500 prisoners of the 69th regiment, and made its way towards Orleko to cut the Bulgarian retreat from Lahana.

According to the Greek press bureau the number of Bulgarian troops at Kukush was 50,000, of whom 24,000, forming the 14th, 16th, 24th, 29th, 32nd, and 41st regiments, were concentrated round the town. In another communique it was reported that the Bulgarian general Dimitroff, having under him the 14th division, held the centre of the Bulgarian line at Kukush.

Yesterday, the 5th July, 500 Bulgarian prisoners were brought here and sent to Greece.

The Greeks expect shortly to fight the second big battle of the campaign near Demir Hisar. Although the Greeks claim to have met the bulk of the Bulgarian army at Kukush, some authorities here are of opinion that the mass of the Bulgarian forces is still to be encountered and that more serious battles are yet to be fought.

A continuous stream of wounded is arriving in Salonica by road and by rail, the

total number up to the present being estimated at some 9,000. The majority of these are only slightly wounded, having been mostly struck in the left hand, and many will in a short time be able to rejoin their regiments.

I have, &c.
JAMES MORGAN.

[33008] No. 395.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 134.)
Sir, *Rome, July 14, 1913.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 109 of the 3rd July, I have the honour to report that I asked the Secretary-General of the Italian Foreign Office whether he had seen Essad Pasha when he came to Rome, and, if so, whether he had given him any information about things in Albania. Signor de Martino said Essad had called at the Foreign Office. He did not appear to be a person who need be taken very seriously. He displayed great anxiety to be allowed to collect a force which he represented as being readily available with which to attack the Servians who were in occupation of Albanian territory. He was told that such designs would be altogether inconsistent with the neutrality of Albania which was contemplated by the programme of the Powers, and that any provocation of hostilities with Servian garrisons would lead to very serious consequences. I understand that he has gone to Vienna, where it is possible he may advocate a similar proposal.

I have, &c.
RENNELL RODD.

[32997] No. 396.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

No. 380.)
Sir, *Paris, July 16, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith, copy of a despatch which I have received from Sir Paul Harvey, British Delegate to the Balkan Financial Commission, relative to the Samacov mine concession.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure in No. 396.

Sir P. Harvey to Sir Edward Grey.

(No. 24.)
Sir, *Paris, July 16, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 6 of the 11th July, transmitting copies of documents relative to the Samacov mine concession, and to inform you that copies of the contour plans of the concession will not be required by the Balkan Financial Commission.

The only point of difficulty which arises in connection with this matter is that, although the contract for the concession of the mine was signed in April 1912, the firman ratifying the concession was only granted on the 5th February last, that is to say, after the territory in which the mine is situated had passed into the occupation of the Bulgarian forces.

The point of Turkish law involved, as to the position of the concessionnaires during the period between the signature of the contract and the issue of the firman, was submitted to a sub-committee of members of the Balkan Financial Commission, with special legal competence, among whom was the Bulgarian delegate, and I have to report that this sub-committee has come to the conclusion, concurred in by the Concessions Committee, that the contract must be considered as being binding even before the firman issued, the firman being merely declaratory and not constitutive of rights.

In these circumstances the Bulgarian Government will, in the view of the Committee, which the Plenary Commission will undoubtedly ratify, be substituted to

the Ottoman Government in the latter's obligations to the Concessionnaires in question, and will be asked to carry out the necessary formalities for the ratification of the contract of April 1912, the firman issued subsequent to the outbreak of hostilities being disregarded.

At my request it was recorded that these formalities should involve no cost to the Concessionnaires.

I have, &c.
H. P. HARVEY.

[32998] No. 397.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 381.)
Sir, *Paris, July 16, 1913.*

I HAD an appointment to be received by the Minister for Foreign Affairs at 6.30 yesterday evening. On my arrival at the Quay d'Orsay I found the Russian Ambassador waiting to see M. Pichon. He told me that the Servians and Bulgarians were ready to accept the arbitration of Russia. He learnt that London was becoming very philhellene, but the pretensions of the Greeks were absurd, and the boasting language of the Greek Minister here was unworthy of a man in his position.

I reminded M. Isvolsky of the feeling of horror which was created in England by the Bulgarian atrocities in the time of Mr. Gladstone, and what effect politically they had had. Now it appeared that the atrocities of which the Greeks complained had been committed not by the Turks, but by Bulgarian troops, and they had, as was natural, created a great prejudice against a people capable of such horrible massacres and cruelties. The Greek Government had taken advantage of this, as was also natural, of the feeling in Europe on the subject of the proceedings of the Bulgarians to plead that they could not leave liable to such treatment people of the Greek race inhabiting districts from which the Greek army had driven the Bulgarian troops.

M. Isvolsky admitted that atrocities had been committed by the Bulgarians, but he pleaded that mutual race hatred was meaningless to the Balkan peninsular and was not peculiar to the Bulgarians. He then went on to say that he was about to inform M. Pichon that M. Sazonof was of opinion that the conclusion of peace might be hastened by the despatch of a Bulgarian plenipotentiary to attend the meeting of the representatives of Servia and Greece at Nish proposed by M. Pasitch. Our conversation was interrupted by the arrival of the Bulgarian Minister who was in a very nervous and agitated state. He informed us that he had just come from an interview with the President of the Republic and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, for the Roumanians had occupied Varna. The doorkeeper then came in to announce that M. Pichon was ready to receive the Russian Ambassador, and M. Stancioff and I were alone together. He told me that he was the only person who had cypher communication with the King of Bulgaria, that His Majesty had telegraphed directing him to appeal to the French Government, begging that they would bring about an intervention of the Powers in order to cause the cessation of hostilities, for the Roumanians had occupied Varna, and if warlike operations continued and the people of Sofia learnt what the situation was, there would be revolution.

I asked the Bulgarian Minister what he expected the Powers to do. He said that they ought to insist on the cessation of hostilities, so that they might decide on the conditions of peace or allow Russia to decide.

I suggested to M. Stancioff that, if the decision were left to Russia and she were impartial, her sentence would certainly not please all the belligerents and if one or more of them objected and refused to abide by her decision, who was to enforce it, and it might also be displeasing to Austria, which would endanger her relations with Russia. There might be the same danger to peace between the Great Powers if they undertook to settle the terms of peace between the Balkan States, and their decision were rejected. They would then be in the predicament of having either to submit to the rebuff or to proceed to enforce those terms, and I did not think that either the British Government or the French Government would accept to occupy such a position. Why could not the Balkan States negotiate terms between them?

M. Stancioff said that it would be impossible to negotiate on the field of battle, as was proposed by the Greeks. There was no Bulgarian fit to send on such a mission, and moreover, before negotiators could meet at Nish or elsewhere, there would be a

catastrophe at Sophia. The King of Bulgaria would be ready to submit to any conditions approved by the Great Powers, but there was no time to lose. My conversation with M. Stancioff was broken off by the return of M. Isvolsky from his interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the announcement that M. Pichon was ready to receive me. His Excellency informed me that the Bulgarian Minister had in the name of King Ferdinand asked for the intervention of all the Powers to settle the conditions of peace, and that the answer made to M. Stancioff by the President of the Republic had been that the French Government would be prepared to adopt, in concert with the other Powers, any proposals calculated to bring about peace as rapidly as possible. M. Pichon said that he was telegraphing to that effect to the French Ambassadors at the several capitals concerned.

M. Pichon further informed me of the communication made to him by the Russian Ambassador on the part of M. Sazonoff to which I have referred in the earlier part of my present despatch, but M. Sazonoff was not aware of the occupation of Varna by the Roumanians when he instructed M. Isvolsky to make the communication in question.

I was at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs again this evening and I there met the Bulgarian Minister, who, as I acquainted you by telegraph, had received a further telegram from King Ferdinand, who desired that you should be informed that the Roumanians having occupied Varna, are marching on Tirnova and Sofia, to which capital the population of the country traversed by the invading army was fleeing in terror. M. Stancioff said that there would be a battle at Sophia, for there was a military force of over 200,000 Bulgarians there and at the neighbourhood. There was no Ministry, for Dr. Daneff had resigned and nobody had been found to take his place. The King was the only responsible person in authority, and His Majesty asked that the Great Powers should insist on the Roumanians desisting from any further advance. The Turks were on the point of occupying Lozengrad and then would march on Adrianople. The King urged that they should be called upon to withdraw within the frontier line of Enos-Midia which had been accepted by the Porte in London. The Servians had, M. Stancioff said, halted, but the Greeks continued to advance notwithstanding Bulgarian protests.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

[33000] No. 398.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 383.)
Sir, *Paris, July 17, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour, with reference to my telegram No. 398 of to-day's date, to transmit to you herewith a letter from M. Stancioff, Bulgarian Minister in Paris, enclosing a telegram from the King of Bulgaria and a memorandum amplifying it on the subject of the situation in Bulgaria.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 398.

Bulgarian Minister to Sir F. Bertie.

(Très Confidentiel.) 38, *Avenue Kléber, Paris, le 16 juillet 1913.*

M. l'Ambassadeur,

PERMETTEZ-MOI de vous envoyer ces lignes par pneumatique, car il me semble que l'urgence est grande et je ne veux pas, en outre, leur donner un caractère trop officiel. Je suis sûr que votre Excellence ne peut que partager mes prévisions et même mes craintes. Oserais-je demander de faire télégraphier leur contenu à votre Ministre des Affaires Etrangères?

Sentiments de respectueuse considération,
STANCIOF.

Enclosure 2 in No. 398.

Telegram received by Bulgarian Minister at Paris from King Ferdinand.

Sophia, le 17 juillet, 1913.

ARMEE turque s'est emparée hier soir de Lulé-Bourgas, elle avance vers Lozengrade. ayant renvoyé de Constantinople Natchevitch. elle essayera sans doute ce soir reprendre Andrinople.

Les troupes roumaines ont occupé Varna et avancent dans la direction de Tirnova et Vratza semant l'angoisse et la désolation autour d'elles. Vieillards, femmes et enfants fuient désemparés, affolés vers Sophia.

L'armée grecque avance vers Nevrokop pour rencontrer les 2e et 3e armées bulgares.

Il est nécessaire d'attirer d'urgence l'attention de l'Europe sur ces faits graves et ces menaçantes éventualités.

Enclosure 3 in No. 398.

Suppl. mentary Memorandum.

(Très Confidentiel.)

XE pas perdre le vaste pays en Bulgarie environ 80,000 personnes tuées, puisque les Grecs traitent nous pas nos braves soldats. Turcs apprenant que leurs troupes avancent, se préparent se livrer facilement à nos massacres. Une fois le pays, l'Europe sera responsable. Il faut penser que dans les villes bulgares il y a actuellement que des vieillards, les femmes et les enfants.

Autre chose à Sophia il y a les troupes en grand nombre naturellement aussi des Roumains, dans leur aveuglement avancent jusqu'à Sofia n'est pas à supposer qu'il y aura forcément une résistance mais encore faut-il laisser les Roumains occuper la capitale sans opposer une résistance? Comment peut on expliquer la marche en avant des Roumains après leurs fermes déclarations? L'Europe veut-elle une nouvelle guerre? L'Europe veut-elle une revanche en Bulgarie? Conclusion il faut agir vite pour arrêter la marche insensée des Roumains et l'invasion des Turcs en contradiction flagrante avec le Traité de Londres.

Ces deux questions sont indépendantes du conflit armée entre Grecs Serbes et Bulgares.

STANCIOF.

Paris, le 17 juillet 1913.

[33001] No. 399.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 384.)
Sir, *Paris, July 17, 1913.*

ON the receipt of your telegram No. 262 of the 8th instant, I addressed a memorandum to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, in the sense of the instructions contained therein on the subject of the extra duties on alcohol, the revenue for the sale of salt, the lease of the fishery rights, and the surtax imposed by Turkey at Scutari.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith M. Pichon's reply.

His Excellency acquaints me with the information which he has received with regard to the fiscal matters in question, and with his views as to how they should be treated.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure in No. 399

M. Pichon to Sir F. Bertie.

M. l'Ambassadeur, *Paris, le 16 juillet, 1913.*

EN réponse à la note de votre Excellence, en date du 9 de ce mois, au sujet de la levée des surtaxes fiscales et douanières à Scutari d'Albanie, j'ai l'honneur de vous exposer les considérations suivantes. D'après les renseignements qui me sont communiqués depuis l'époque de la guerre italo-turque, les agents de la Dette publique ottomane perçoivent, à titre d'impôt de guerre, à Scutari d'Albanie, comme dans le reste de l'Empire, une surtaxe de 10 paras par kilogramme sur la vente du sel et une surtaxe égale au droit normal sur l'alcool. Le produit de ces surtaxes est versé au Trésor, défalcation faite du 25 pour cent qui appartient à la Dette publique ottomane pour le service de l'amortissement. En ce qui concerne le produit des pêcheries, il est affecté au service de l'emprunt dit des pêcheries.

Le remplacement de substitues en fait au Pouvoir souverain, les représentants des Puissances à Scutari seraient en droit de demander aux commissaires de la Dette publique la remise entre leurs mains des excédents des produits de la surtaxe de guerre. Au moment où les Puissances se préoccupent de faire valoir les droits des porteurs de titres ottomans à l'égard des États cessionnaires de territoires ottomans, il pourrait, par contre, y avoir des inconvénients à laisser les représentants des Grandes Puissances ne pas tenir compte des droits de l'Administration de la Dette publique.

En dehors de la surtaxe de guerre dont la perception peut sans inconvénient être continuée jusqu'à l'établissement d'un régime normal et stable pour l'Albanie le Gouvernement Impérial ottoman avait établi, sur les marchandises provenant des États avec lesquels il était en guerre, une taxe douanière de 100 pour cent *ad valorem*. Il paraît difficile de s'appuyer sur des principes de droit précis pour prendre des décisions à l'égard de cette surtaxe, et j'estime, comme le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté britannique, qu'il y a lieu de laisser à l'amiral Britano que et à ses collègues toute latitude pour en suspendre ou en continuer la perception. Ces taxes douanières ne rentrent pas d'ailleurs dans les perceptions faites par les commissaires de la Dette publique et le Gouvernement de fait établi actuellement à Scutari serait fondé, s'il les maintenait, à en appliquer le produit aux dépenses d'intérêt général auxquelles il doit pourvoir.

Agréez, &c.

(Pour le Ministre et par autorisation),

PALÉOLOGUE.

[33609] No. 400.

Telegrams communicated by Count Benckendorff, July 18, 1913.

(1.)

M. Sazonof to Count Benckendorff.

Saint Pétersbourg, le 4 (17, juillet, 1913.

LE langage tenu par le Grand Vizir à M. de Giers nous paraît incompatible avec le point de vue des Grandes Puissances. Si la Turquie croit ne pas avoir à tenir compte des décisions des Puissances, le résultat de celles élaborées à Londres se trouverait gravement compromis.

Il nous semble qu'il conviendrait de déclarer à la Sublime Porte que les Puissances ne sauraient revenir sur les décisions adoptées et en même temps de donner à leurs délégués l'instruction de procéder sans délai à la délimitation de la frontière turco-bulgare.

Si la Sublime Porte tentait de se dérober par des réponses évasives, cette déclaration pourrait, le cas échéant, et si cela devenait nécessaire, être appuyée par une démonstration navale collective.

(2.)

Russian Ambassador at Constantinople to M. Sazonof.

Constantinople, le 3 (16) juillet, 1913.

LE Grand Vizir dément que les troupes ottomanes aient dépassé la ligne Enos-Midia.

En outre, son Altesse s'efforça de me démontrer que les modifications récentes de la situation dans les Balkans donnaient le droit à la Turquie de considérer annulé le Traité de Londres, et que d'ailleurs, ni l'opinion publique turque ni l'armée ne pardonneraient au Gouvernement son inaction. Je répondis au Grand Vizir que le Traité de Londres avait été signé sous l'auspice des Puissances et qu'aucun des États alliés ne l'avait enfreint pour ce qui concerne la Turquie, que, par conséquent, la Turquie deviendrait seule responsable de toute infraction en ce sens, et, le cas échéant, aurait à en supporter les conséquences.

Je m'efforçai de représenter au Grand Vizir tout le danger d'une politique aventureuse. Je lui dis que rien n'excluait que la paix conclue entre les États des Balkans, la Turquie ne soit confrontée avec une nouvelle alliance contre elle des trois, ce qui cette fois pourrait rendre douteuse l'attitude même de la Roumanie.

Je crains que mes arguments n'aient pas suffi à convaincre entièrement le Grand Vizir qui redoute la pression du comité, décidé à l'occupation d'Andrinople.

33086] No. 401.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. - Received July 18.)

(No. 290.)

(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 17, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 276 of 13th July.

Fighting has occurred in neighbourhood of Strumnitza between Greek and Bulgarian forces.

Greek division has been routed at Strumnitza (sic), losing many killed and wounded.

During last four days outpost engagements have occurred between Servians and Bulgarians.

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[33087] No. 402.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 18.)

(No. 291.)

(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 17, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 285 of 16th July.

Formation of Ministry representing all parties having failed, King of Bulgarians has agreed to new Ministry with M. Radoslavof as President of the Council and M. Gennadief leader of Stambulovist party, as Minister for Foreign Affairs.

It is not only strongly pro-Austrian, but rabidly anti-Russian, and contains no members favourable to Triple *Entente*.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[33100] No. 403.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 18.)

(No. 292.)

(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 17, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 17th July.

New Minister for Foreign Affairs, who has just called, has asked me to inform you that Cabinet are entirely peacefully inclined, and that they will address circular to the Great Powers to-morrow, asking them to use their influence in favour of immediate cessation of hostilities.

(Confidential.)

The new Ministers are beginning to realise that Bulgaria is in a sad plight, and are searching round for aid on all sides.

They have already approached Austrian and Italian Ministers here respecting intervention in their favour at Bucharest, but, while the latter is giving them all support, they are so far disappointed with Austria.

Should Roumania cut the railway to Varna, which largely supplies the capital, a battle is probable.

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[33024] No. 404.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 18.

(No. 311.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 17, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 329 of 16th July.

I saw Grand Vizier this afternoon, and read to him paraphrase of your instructions. His Highness said that Ottoman troops had not advanced beyond Enos-Midia straight line, and were now occupying Mount Saran, Kavakchaivan, Seddler, Mourad, [group undecipherable], Keshan, and Enos as stated in press.

He declared however to me reassurances he gave me on 7th July (my telegram No. 293 of 7th July). Naturally Government has yet taken no decision as to their future action. There were many factors in the situation, and amongst them the temper of the army to the possibility of resistance on the part of Bulgarians had to be taken into account. Isaac Pasha's presence at Midia was proof enough that Bulgarians were not likely to provoke incidents. On the contrary, action of Turkish troops at Enos-Midia were such that could create no feeling with state of war, and this made me fear that they might create pretext for advance. It would be deplorable if army were to dictate policy of Turkey. I was sure that very serious consequences foreseen by you could not have been considered by Government.

His Highness said that he was himself in favour of respecting Enos-Midia line, but could give no assurances.

My impression, I gather, was that chauvinistic elements of Committee have decided on forward policy, and that Grand Vizier was only endeavouring to gain time.

I venture to suggest immediate intimation to Hakki Pasha that success of suggestions respecting 4 per cent. would be compromised by policy of adventure, which might act as a deterrent.

French Chargé d'Affaires has received instructions for collective *démarche*, and I presume I may join it when other representatives receive necessary instructions.

Austrian and Russian Ambassadors have already made strong representations, and French Chargé d'Affaires will do so to-morrow.

[33147] No. 405.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 325.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 18, 1913.*

RE FOLKMS.

Berlin telegram No. 110 of 16th July and my telegram No. 332 of 16th July.

Commission of dragomans is making a preliminary study of the Russian and Turkish schemes concurrently, but taking the former as basis (see my telegram No. 317 of 5th July). As the Russian scheme approximates more to the 1895 scheme than does the Turkish, the British member is giving general support to his Russian colleague while confining himself to lines of 1895 scheme (see your telegram No. 198 of 4th July to St. Petersburgh).

The work of the commission may be finished in a week or ten days, when the results will be submitted to the Ambassadors.

[33152] No. 406.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 346.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 18, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 344 of 17th July.

The French Minister has made strong representations to the Grand Vizier and received practically the same reply as that given to me, the Grand Vizier adding that the army, excited by evidences of Bulgarian excesses, was clamouring to advance beyond the line.

The German Ambassador has informed the French Minister that he is willing to join in any step that may be decided on to arrest the Turks, but he has no faith in its efficacy.

I am disposed to agree with the German Ambassador, as the Committee's press, commenting on your recent public statement, expressed conviction that owing to pacific sentiments prevailing in England there is no likelihood that the Powers will agree to employ active pressure.

[33162] No. 407.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 347.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 18, 1913.*

AGREEMENT for prolongation of Tobacco Regie's concession was signed yesterday. It provides for advance of 1,500,000*l.* to Turkey, of which 200,000*l.* will be paid over at once.

[33151] No. 408.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 112.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 18, 1913.*

REPORT has reached me that the King of the Bulgarians has made a direct appeal to the Emperor of Austria to help Bulgaria and to use his influence with Roumania to arrest further advance of her army towards Sophia. Should this report prove true, I think it doubtful whether Austria will act as requested, as the desire here is to do nothing which can irritate Roumania.

[33161] No. 409.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 109.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 18, 1913.*

SOPHIA telegram No. 289 of 17th July.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs has promised the Russian Minister that the telegraph will not be cut, though private cypher messages will not be permitted. The Minister for Foreign Affairs says that if the Varna telegraph is not working the responsibility rests with Bulgarian authorities, as the Roumanian troops have not occupied Varna.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[33164] No. 410.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 110.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 18, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 106 of 17th July

The Russian and French Ministers renewed their representations most energetically yesterday. The Russian Minister thinks that they made a distinct impression. The King, who is at present with the army, is about to return to Bucharest in order to consult the Cabinet regarding these representations. Meanwhile the Minister for Foreign Affairs renewed his assurance that the advance of the troops would not be hurried.

The Russian Minister tells me that the Bulgarian Government are sending a delegate to Nisch.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[33165] No. 411.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

No. 111.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 18, 1913.*

KING of Bulgarians telegraphed to King of Roumania 16th July. I understand that tenor of telegram was that Bulgaria was ready to make peace with Servians and Greeks, and asking what were Roumania's terms. Telegram was in friendly terms and expressed hope that present conflict would not leave lasting traces.

I do not know tenor of King of Roumania's reply. I understand that it was friendly but vague.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[33160] No. 412.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 170.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 18, 1913.*

THE Prime Minister has returned from his interview with the Greek Premier at Uskub, and I learn that he informed the latter that the Greek territorial demands and other conditions appeared to him altogether too extravagant.

M. Venizelos, on the other hand, appeared surprised at the moderation of Servia's claims (frontier now proposed by Prime Minister and agreed to by the military authorities is watershed between Vardar and Struma, excluding lower Brigalnitsa and part of Strumitsa) and said that he and the King and army to contend against, who were suspected of Bulgarian atrocities. He would, however, do his best to restrain them, and would be willing, together with the Servian Government, to enter now into direct negotiations with the Bulgarians for conclusion of armistice. But he pointed out that if Bulgarians delayed making overtures or continued hostilities he would find it impossible to do anything to moderate Greek demands.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Bucharest.)

[33168] No. 413.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 99.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 18, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 282 of 16th July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs sent on that date instructions to French representative at Constantinople similar to those sent to His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires there in your telegram No. 329 of 16th July, respecting forward movement on the part of Turkey.

[33170] No. 414.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 114. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 18, 1913.*

BALKANS.

I have communicated your telegram No. 228 of 17th July to Vienna to Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

He agrees as to the two cardinal points, and believes that Greece will be quite willing to leave Dedeagatch to Bulgaria. He would prefer to leave belligerents to settle territorial question amongst themselves. I said that I presumed that you feared that Austria or Russia [group omitted] would disapprove settlement. Secretary of State is strongly averse to conference of Great Powers. Firstly, because he thinks it too slow, and secondly, because he presumes you would not consent to another in London, St. Petersburgh and Vienna are too nearly concerned, Rome is too hot, and Paris impossible, owing to character of a certain Ambassador (M. Isvolsky). He would prefer Balkan [group undecipherable] Conference at Bucharest or elsewhere in which our Ministers might perhaps participate.

I asked whether if there were substantial agreement between the Powers in the sense of your telegram he would agree to joint representations to urge cessation of hostilities, and he said he thought so, but as you did not invite a formal proposal he need not yet answer.

[33167] No. 415.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

No. 268.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 18, 1913.*

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs told me this morning that he had instructed Russian Ambassador to suggest to you that Powers should tell Turkey categorically that she would not be allowed to retain any territory beyond line fixed by Treaty of Peace. On my asking what he proposed Powers should do were Turkey not to assent to them, his Excellency spoke of naval demonstration. In reply to further question which I addressed to him his Excellency said Russia would not take any isolated action, but he seemed to think that, even if all the Powers could not be induced to take part in it, a naval demonstration might be made by some of them with tacit consent of the rest. I asked whether he had in practice Powers of Triple Alliance in regard to some collective action at Constantinople and his Excellency replied negatively, saying he preferred to leave matter in your hands.

He has he told me received assurances that Roumania will act in concert with Turkish Baltchik line, so he does not propose asking further representations at Bucharest. Powers would, however, he thought, have to do something to induce Servia and Greece to reduce their demands. Russia could not allow Bulgaria to be excluded altogether from Ægean Sea, and several of his advisers at Ministry for Foreign Affairs thought it was not to Russia's interest that Greece should have Cavalla. I remarked that it seemed to me first thing to be done was for Russia and Austria to come to an understanding with regard to final settlement. His Excellency replied that there was now no reason to fear conflict of interests between the two Governments, but that whatever was done must be done by all Powers conjointly, and he did not wish to initiate direct negotiations with Austria on the subject.

In a second conversation which I had with him this afternoon I communicated to him substance of your telegram No. 228 of 17th July to Vienna. His Excellency said he quite agreed with two principles you had laid down, but that as Bulgaria would have Enos and Dedeagatch we could not support her claim to Cavalla, on the ground that she must have one port on Ægean Sea. He would telegraph his views to Russian Ambassador.

Minister for Foreign Affairs cannot make up his mind on the subject of Cavalla. On the one hand, he does not want Bulgaria to think Austria is supporting and Russia opposing her claims to that port, while he attaches weight to views of his advisers on the subject. On the other hand, he fears it will be very difficult to make Greece renounce her claims.

His Excellency told me latest news he had received from Constantinople gave him grounds to hope that Turkey would be reasonable.

From telegram he had received from Russian Minister from Sophia, King of Bulgarians, he said, seemed to be going off his head, as he was imputing to Russia design of deposing him and of excluding Crown Prince from succession, and of placing a Russian Grand Duke on Bulgarian throne.

[33097] No. 416.

Consul-General Smith to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 13.)
(Telegraphic.) *Decode* *Odessa, July 18, 1913*

VICE-CONSUL at Sevastopol reports arrival 17th July of five Bulgarian steamers. It is understood that they are fitted as transports.

(Repeated to St. Petersburgh and Constantinople.)

[32984] No. 417.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir G. Barclay.

(No. 35.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 18, 1913.*

SIR H. BAX-IRONSIDE'S telegram No. 289 of 17th July. Bulgarian telegraphs. You may act accordingly if all your colleagues are similarly instructed.

[32792] No. 418.

Sir Edward Grey to Count Mensdorff.

HIS Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's communication of the 16th instant relative to fiscal regulations applied by the recent treaty allies, Balkan States, in the territories occupied by them, and, in the case of Greece, also in Crete.

Sir E. Grey begs leave to express to Count Mensdorff his thanks for the willingness expressed by the Austro-Hungarian Government to join His Majesty's Government in a remonstrance at Sofia against the seizure by the Bulgarian Government of cigarette papers and their imposition of excise and duties on the sale of alcoholic drinks. Sir E. Grey has, however, the honour to state that, according to a telegram, dated the 17th instant, from His Majesty's Minister at Sophia the Bulgarian Government have now declared their intention to suspend the application of the Bulgarian tariff to the occupied territory.

As regards the proposal of the Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs that a similar representation should be made at Belgrade, Sir E. Grey has the honour to state that he has addressed a telegram to His Majesty's Minister at that capital instructing him to make the suggested protest as soon as all his colleagues of the Great Powers are similarly authorised.

As regards the proceedings of Greece, Sir E. Grey has the honour to observe that on the 18th April he proposed to the Governments of the other Great Powers that a collective remonstrance should be made at Athens against the preferential treatment applied to Greek goods imported into the occupied territories and into Crete. On the 27th June His Majesty's Minister at Athens reported that this step could not be taken because the Austro-Hungarian Minister was without instructions to join in it, and Sir E. Grey accordingly telegraphed on the 15th instant to His Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna, directing him to endeavour to secure that these instructions should be sent.

Foreign Office, July 18, 1913.

[31554] No. 419.

Sir Edward Grey to M. Cambon.

HIS Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the French Ambassador, and in reply to his Excellency's recent communication relative to the property of Moslem refugees in the territory occupied by the Bulgarian forces, has the honour to state that he has informed the Sublime Porte of the explanations furnished by the Bulgarian Government on the subject, which appear to Sir E. Grey to be satisfactory.

No reply having as yet been returned by the Turkish Government to his communication, Sir E. Grey agrees with M. Pichon that no further action is required in the matter.

Foreign Office, July 18, 1913.

[33222] No. 420.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 19.)

(No. 386.)
Sir, *Paris, July 18, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith two despatches which I have received from the British delegates on the Balkan Financial Commission reporting on the work so far accomplished by the commission up to its adjournment to-day, and on the appointment of an arbitral tribunal to settle the question of Greek claims against Turkey in regard to the detention of Greek ships.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 420.

British Delegates on the Balkan Financial Commission to Sir Edward Grey.

(No. 23.)
Sir, *Paris, July 18, 1913.*

WE have the honour to report that a plenary meeting of the commission appointed to deal with the Balkan financial settlement took place this morning, at which it was decided to adjourn the work of the commission until the 30th September.

Of the three committees of the commission, appointed respectively to deal with:

1. The apportionment of the Turkish debt;
2. Concessions and contracts relating to enterprises in the ceded territories;
3. The pecuniary claims of the belligerents,

the first, the Committee of the Debt, has practically completed the preliminary examination of the data from which the allies share of the debt can be calculated, and of the various possible methods of carrying out the said calculation. The results of this committee's work will be embodied in a report, with the preparation of which Sir Paul Harvey has been charged. No unanimous conclusion has been arrived at, but with the exception of a few points on which further information is awaited, the report will supply generally accepted data and the results of alternative methods of calculation.

The committee dealing with concessions and contracts has examined a number of the simpler forms of concession, such as those for mines, for the construction of harbours, and for the cutting of wood in forests, and certain principles have been arrived at with regard to the substitution of the annexing State to the Ottoman Government in the obligations of the latter as to which a considerable measure of agreement has been attained. These conclusions will be embodied in a report and circulated. The more difficult questions, such as those relating to railway concessions, *contrats d'etude*, and the date from which the above substitution is to take place have, so far, only been touched upon, and will be taken up again in the autumn.

The committee on the pecuniary claims of the belligerents has made little headway In so far as the claims deposited by the Balkan delegations represented a demand for a war indemnity, they have been met by a refusal on the part of the Turkish delegation to discuss them a refusal under which they have had sufficient support from certain other delegations to make it impossible to proceed with the discussion of those claims.

The claims of a more particular nature, such as those relating to the maintenance of prisoners of war, have received a certain amount of consideration, but, except as regards one or two minor demands, the present uncompromising attitude of the Turkish delegation has made it impossible to arrive at any conclusions The various statements of claims will be embodied in a report and circulated

The Balkan delegations have stated emphatically that their consent to assume a part of the Turkish debt will depend upon the grant to them of a war indemnity It is thought that the reports of the First and Third Committees which deal with these two questions will permit of an exchange of views between the Powers on these questions during the interval in the commissions's meetings.

We have, &c.
H P HARVEY
FANCOURT D CARNEGIE.

Enclosure 2 in No. 120.

Sir P Harvey to Sir Edward Grey

(No. 20.)

Sir, *Paris, July* 18, 1913

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of the detailed claims laid before the Ankara Financial Commission by the Greek delegation in respect of the seizure of merchant ships by the Turkish Government on the eve of the recent war, and of the detainment of others in the Black Sea to avoid capture *

These claims have been under the consideration of the Committee on Claims to Compensation at its last two meetings.

The Ottoman delegation declared itself prepared to admit in principle the claim in respect of ships commandeered by the Ottoman Government As regards ships forcibly detained before the outbreak of hostilities, but not made use of, the Ottoman Government was prepared to reserve them to the owners but declined to discuss any question of belligerency for their detention

This attitude brought about a deadlock the Greek delegation refusing to admit a distinction between ships forcibly detained and ships commandeered.

A proposal to refer the matter to an arbitral tribunal was accepted by the Greek delegation but received from the Ottoman delegation the reply that they were prepared to submit to arbitration the amount of indemnity payable in respect of the ships commandeered but not go further

This uncompromising attitude on the part of the Ottoman delegation appeared to me not only unreasonable, but detrimental, in the eyes of the commission, to their case on the war indemnity question, a view which I found Sir R. Crawford shared I accordingly exerted myself as did also my French colleague, to get the delegation to accept the proposal to refer the whole question of the Greek claims in respect of the detention of ships to a specially constituted arbitral tribunal, and I am glad to say, the delegation finally consented to this, a decision which gave general satisfaction, as it is the only positive result so far achieved by the Committee on Claims to Compensation, and disposes of a category of claims presenting very considerable difficulties

The arbitral tribunal would decide not only the questions of principle involved, but also assess the specific amount of indemnity payable. A perusal of the claims will indicate that they involve numerous points of a technical nature with which the Financial Commission is unsuited to deal

I was requested to submit to the committee when it reassembles in October specific proposals as to the composition of the arbitral tribunal and the terms of reference thereto. I am in communication with the Greek and Ottoman delegations on the subject, and shall be glad to receive your instructions or observations with regard thereto. A proposal as to the composition of the tribunal, which appeared to meet with considerable support, was that it should comprise representatives of Greece and

* Not printed.

Turkey and of three maritime Powers It was also been pointed out to me that an arbitral commission would have greater liberty of action than an arbitral tribunal bound by The Hague procedure

I have, &c.
H P HARVEY

[36140] No. 121

Memorandum communicated by Prince Lichnowsky July 19, 1913.

(Confidential.)

THE British Embassy in Berlin has recently informed the German Foreign Office of the intention of the British Government to make representations at Belgrade to the effect to obtain the withdrawal of the Servian troops from the towns Orosch-Nakania and Ponka in order to avoid collisions with the Albanian tribes in those places.

According to the desire of the British Government, the German Minister in Belgrade has been instructed to join in these steps after having communicated with his British colleague According to his report he was informed by the Servian Government that Ponka has already been evacuated, and that the evacuation of Orosch-Nakania has been ordered. It is, however, suggested that the carrying out of the last-named measure meets with difficulties, because meanwhile Sandjansky has appeared there, and, in conjunction with Kemal Bey is stirring up the population against the Serbs and distributing arms among the inhabitants in order to obtain rectifications of the frontier which they declare to be in the Albanian interest which obviously cannot be admitted by the Servian Government

The Servian Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin has already officially complained of Sandjansky's intrigues The Imperial Government would think it therefore advisable to draw the attention of the International Letter-boats in Scutari to this question in order to prevent international difficulties which might arise in Albania near the Serbo-Albanian frontier from the insurrectional movement apparently inspired by Sandjansky

German Embassy, London,
July 19, 1913

33198] No. 122

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 19.)

No. 112 Confidential.)
Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July* 18, 1913.

RUSSIAN Minister tells me that new Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs has reversed pro Russian policy of his predecessor by approaching Roumanian Government through the Italian Legation at Sofia, who is charged with Roumanian interests, with a view to discussing Roumanian territorial demands through Italian channels

I understand that Roumanian Government will reply that they cannot negotiate apart from the other belligerents

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[33282] No. 123.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 19.)

(No. 114 Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July* 19, 1913

MY telegram No. 111 of 18th July.

I hear on good authority that the King's reply to the King of the Bulgarians' telegram as originally drafted was thought too vague and revised by Cabinet, and that a more precise answer was telegraphed yesterday stating Roumania's territorial demands, but refusing to negotiate apart from the other belligerents.

[33335] No. 424.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July* 19.)

(No. 115.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July* 19, 1913.

MY telegram No. 110 of 18th July.

Orders were sent yesterday to the Roumanian troops in Bulgaria not to advance beyond the point already occupied.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33341] No. 425.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 19.)

(No. 116.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Bucharest, July* 19, 1913.

FOLLOWING from military attaché for the Director of Military Operations:—

"It is officially announced that yesterday a brigade of 9th Bulgarian division with twelve guns surrendered to 1st cavalry division. This brigade no doubt part of Bulgarian 1st army.

"It is also announced that a large part of Bulgarian army is between Sophia and Slivnitza."

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[33350] No. 426.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 19.)

(No. 117.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July* 19, 1913.

ITALIAN communication referred to in my telegram No. 112 of 18th July was made here yesterday. It asked Roumanian Government to state their demands, said that those would be considered in a conciliatory spirit, and asked that the advance of Roumanian troops should be stopped immediately.

Reply handed to Italian Minister here to-day expressed surprise at this communication as Roumanian demands were well known to Bulgaria, and, as regards stopping of troops, said that this could only be after an armistice in which, as well as peace negotiations, Roumania could not act apart from her allied interests.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33351] No. 427.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 19.)

(No. 118.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July* 19, 1913.

MY immediately preceding telegram of 19th July.

Reply was not handed to the Italian Minister as stated. It was withheld owing to a further communication being made by Italian Minister at the moment when the reply was about to be handed in.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33331] No. 428.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 19.)

(No. 293.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 19, 1913.

THE King and Queen have both addressed personal telegrams to the King and Queen of Roumania asking them to use their influence to stop the advance of the Roumanian army. In both cases they have received chilly replies.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

[33354] No. 429.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 19.)

(No. 294. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 18, 1913.

MY telegram No. 291 of 17th July.

Acting on the advice of the Austrian Minister new Government are making every endeavour to persuade German Government and, if possible, the German Emperor, to use all their influence at Bucharest to arrest the progress of Roumanian army.

At the same time they have sent instructions to military authorities to oppose by all means advance of Greek and Servian armies as well as of Roumanian army if they cut Plevna Railway.

Bulgarian army is still very strong, and the present Government believe that if only Roumanian army will stop they can still defeat both Greece and Servia and thus obtain better terms.

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[33355] No. 430.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 19.)

(No. 295. Most Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 18, 1913.

MY telegram No. 275 of 16th July and Sir F. Bertie's telegram No. 941 of 15th July.

I fear no external intervention can save position of King. His Majesty has been responsible for many years for Bulgarian foreign policy, and the blame for its present failure will fall however unjustly primarily on His Majesty.

If he arranges his abdication with tact and at psychological moment the dynasty, in my opinion, can still be saved.

[33356] No. 431.

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 19.)

(No. 296.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 18, 1913.

FOLLOWING from Varna, dated to-day:—

"Roumanians returned about 200 men, at 7 P.M. Quartered in barracks for the night."

[33163] No. 432.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July* 19.)

(No. 348.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July* 18, 1913.

TO-DAY "Tanin" and other Committee organs urging the Government to retake whole of Adrianople vilayet, arguing that in doing so Turkey has better justification than has Roumania for her attack after the St. Petersburgh arbitration.

Prestige of Europe will suffer seriously in Turkey if after the energetic action taken against Montenegro Turkey is allowed to ignore Treaty of London. Real rulers of Turkey will not, however, be retained by platonic representations, but as they attach great importance to Hakki Pasha's mission, I believe that, as suggested in my telegram No. 344 of yesterday, threat to break off negotiations with him would prove a useful lever which would be strengthened if French Government would produce similar action with regard to Javid Bey's negotiations in Paris.

[33346] No. 433.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 19.*)

(No. 349.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Constantinople, July 19, 1913.*

SUBLIME Porte has sent to the doyen of the Diplomatic Body, for communication to the foreign representatives, copy of a telegraphic report from the commander-in-chief that Mussulman quarters of a large number of villages within Enos-Midia line are found to have been burnt and pillaged by Bulgarians.

Possibly this communication indicates intention to declare war on Bulgaria.

[33347] No. 434.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 19.*)

(No. 350.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Constantinople, July 19, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 336 of 17th July. Advance of Turkish troops.

Instructions received by Austrian Ambassador did not mention collective or simultaneous *démarche*. He considers he is not warranted in going beyond the very energetic representations he has already made.

German Ambassador has information that Turkish cavalry has already reached Adrianople.

[33305] No. 435.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 19.*)

(No. 113.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Vienna, July 19, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 214 of 11th July. Customs régime in occupied territory.

The Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs has sent desired instructions to Sophia.

His Excellency asks me to draw your attention to the fact that the attitude of the Servian and Greek Governments has also not been conformable to the wishes of the Powers as set forth in the recent communication of 30th March and he considers it would be most advisable to make similar representations at Belgrade and Athens.

[33338] No. 436.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 19.*)

(No. 115.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Rome, July 19, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 17th July. Advance of Turkish troops.

Italian Ambassador at Constantinople has been authorised, when all his colleagues have received similar instructions, to advise the Ottoman Government not to advance beyond the Enos-Midia line.

[33325] No. 437.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 19.*)

(No. 129.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Athens, July 19, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from the military attaché:—

'Have exhausted every means of trying to get to the front, and only met with positive refusal even to proceed as far as army service. Please recall me as protest against this treatment. Our position in Athens has now become too ridiculous, and, moreover, in the circumstances extremely undignified."

I agree that it is useless for the military attaché to remain. The King's objection to receive the attachés at headquarters is insuperable.

[33332] No. 438.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 19.*)

(No. 115.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Berlin, July 19, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 114 of 18th July.

The French Ambassador informs me that Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs made similar remarks to him about a Balkan conference at Bucharest, but said that our Ministers should not participate in the conference, but exert influence from without.

[33340] No. 439.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 20.*)

(No. 180.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 20, 1913.*

BULGARIAN officer yesterday presented himself at Pirot saying he had been sent by General Paprikof to discuss terms for an armistice. As he was however unable to show any credentials, Servian authorities refused to negotiate, but informed him they would be willing to receive any properly commissioned delegates.

Servian military authorities appear to be expecting further heavy fighting, as wounded, totally unfit to serve, are being impressed from hospitals and hurried to the front.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Bucharest.)

[33348] No. 440.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 20.*)

(No. 351.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 20, 1913.*

SIR G. LOWTHER'S despatch No. 973 of 1912.

Porte is endeavouring to induce Administration of Public Debt to pay over capital of Italian war indemnity, offering to cede to Debt in exchange certain tithes of much greater value than revenues formerly accruing to Debt in Tripoli. Effect of acquisition by Turkey of so considerable a sum at present moment is obvious. (End of R.)

(Confidential.)

British delegate is now supporting scheme, but French Government has, I understand, expressed itself unfavourable to it.

[33352] No. 441.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 20.*)

(No. 119.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 20, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from military attaché for Director of Military Operations:—

"No further official news available. Indications point to passage of river being made at Lom Palanka, Bechet, and Corabia, and that columns are advancing from these points towards Ferdinandovo, Vratsa, and [group undecypherable].

"First division of cavalry and of six regiments is covering above advance, and second division of four regiments is with the 5th Army Corps south of Dobrudja. Bulgarian army is largely dependent on Northern Bulgaria for supplies, so Roumanian occupation should seriously affect them."

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33353] No. 442

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 121 Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 20, 1913.*

RUSSIAN Minister tells me Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs is sounding Bulgarian, Greek and Servian Governments as to Sinaia as a meeting-place for delegates of belligerents.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33389] No. 443.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 20.)

(No. 122.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 20, 1913.*

MY telegrams Nos. 117 and 118 of 19th July.

Italian Minister's second communication which was made yesterday morning, offered the "Turtukai-Baltchik line" and asked for Roumanian benevolent neutrality and moral and diplomatic support for settlement of present conflict. For the immediate recall of Roumanian troops from across the Danube.

Reply of Roumanian Government presented this morning remarks on the lack of precision of the expression "Turtukai-Baltchik line," and, as regards Bulgarian request for Roumanian neutrality, &c. says that Roumania went to war for the prompt re-establishment of peace, and that she will only withdraw troops when an armistice has been agreed upon by the five belligerents, which she hopes will be the case without delay.

(Sent to Athens, Sofia, and Belgrade.)

[33357] No. 444.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 297.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 20, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 289 of 17th July.

Roumanians have destroyed two bridges on Plevna line about 100 kilom. from Sophia. Telegraphic communication via Plevna is interrupted. Some messages still arrive by motor-cars, but I am warned that communication may be stopped at any moment. Capital is still quiet.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[33358] No. 445.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 298.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 19, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 283 of 16th July.

It is stated that Turks have occupied Uzunkupru and that Turkish prisoners of war released by Bulgarian Government have formed bands and are devastating Thrace. Turkish bands have also appeared near Demotika.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[33359] No. 446.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 299.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 19, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 294 of 18th July.

Bulgarian Government yesterday definitely offered Turtukai-Baltchik line through Italian Minister, who is charged with Roumanian interests.

(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[33360] No. 447.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 2)

(No. 300.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Sophia, July 20, 1913.*

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs informs me that Turks are advancing steadily on Adrianople, devastating the country.

Also that Roumanian patrols are still advancing towards Sophia, and that, if they enter plain of Sophia, Bulgarians will be obliged to attack them. Bulgarian Government however, propose to request temporary delay of advance in view of peace negotiations now proceeding.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[33361] No. 448.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 301.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Sophia, July 20, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 279 of 14th July.

Bulgarian Government have just despatched General Paprikof and another delegate to Nisch to negotiate for terms of armistice demobilisation, and peace.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[33362] No. 449.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 302.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 20, 1913.*

BULGARIAN Government have urged M. Gueshof, who is in Paris, to go to London to discuss general situation with you.

M. Madjaroff has been reappointed Minister at London and will proceed when circumstances permit.

[33364] No. 450.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 116.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 20, 1913.*

BULGARIAN Minister has just informed Minister for Foreign Affairs under instructions from his Government, that, in spite of the fact that battle with Servians, Greeks, and Montenegrins has been engaged in since 17th, and even if success should rest with Bulgarians they are prepared now to suspend further hostilities if the other belligerents can be induced to do so.

[33379] No. 451.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 117.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 20, 1913.*

IN continued absence of Minister for Foreign Affairs I communicated, as instructed in your telegram No. 219 of 17th July, substance of your telegram No. 228 of 17th July to Vienna to Under-Secretary of State. He observed that for Powers merely to urge cessation of hostilities on belligerents would be useless, as Greece and Servia had already refused to adopt such advice from Russia, and, moreover, according to his information, Germany would not agree. German Government, foreseeing difficulty if belligerents refused advice of Powers, seemed disposed to let them settle issue by themselves, reserving only right to revision by Powers. As regards cardinal points, on which you considered understanding between Powers should first be secured, he said that Italy did not desire to see Greece extended up to Eros, and would therefore be disposed to agree to Bulgarian access to Ægean Sea, which, presumably, could only be at Cavalla. That Serbo-Greek frontier should become enormous seemed now inevitable. From a remark made by Austrian Ambassador I gathered that this may not yet be admitted at Vienna.

Under-Secretary of State added that Servia seemed disposed to be reasonable, and Greece having given proof of fighting before engagement now in process lost 17,000 killed and wounded, probably desired peace. Roumanians were best able to promote general settlement. Roumanian Government displayed an equal mistrust of Austria and Russia, but were disposed to listen to counsels of Germany and Italy.

[33365] No. 452.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 118.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 20, 1913.*

ITALIAN Ambassador at Constantinople has reported here that little value can be attached to Grand Vizier's assurances that Turkey will abide by Enos-Midia line, as military dispositions are of hasty and popular feeling urges further advance.

[33366] No. 453.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 119.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 20, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 190 of 8th July. Customs at Scutari.

Italian consul has reported against continued collection of surtax of 100 per cent. at Scutari. Foreign Department consider that revenues encashed by Ottoman Debt Commission should still be collected by or for them.

[33367] No. 454.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 120.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 20, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 204 of 11th July. Cigarette paper monopoly and licence due in territory occupied by Bulgaria.

Italian Government have instructed their representative to refer to identic communication of 30th March and insist on its observance.

[33363] No. 455.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 20.)

No. 114.
(Telegraphic.) R. *Vienna, July 20, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 232 of 16th July. Preferential treatment of Greek goods in Crete.

Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs has sent necessary instructions to Austrian Minister at Athens.

[33471] No. 456.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 161.)
Sir, *Athens, July 14, 1913.*

A PUBLIC meeting, held yesterday at Athens to protest against the atrocities committed by the Bulgarians, voted a resolution, a consequence of which the mayor and other members of the organising committee to-day brought to me and to the Ministers of the other Great European Powers and of the United States the accompanying document which I hold them. I would forward to you.

I find that it was at Demir-Hissar, not Serres, that the bishop and 150 (not 200) citizens were found with their throats cut. In my conversation with M. Coromilas, reported in my telegram No. 129 of the 11th instant, I also did not understand that his Excellency was bringing a message from the King by His Majesty's order. The King's telegram to the Government as afterwards published in the papers, was as follows:—

La 9e division informe que des soldats bulgares, sur l'ordre d'un capitaine de gendarmerie, s'emparerent, dans la cour de l'école bulgare de Métropolite de Démir-Hissar, de deux prêtres ainsi que de 100 notables. Ceux-ci furent massacrés. La 9e division ordonna de procéder à l'exhumation des cadavres et le crime fut révélé. Des jeunes filles furent aussi violées et l'une d'elles qui s'y opposa par la résistance, fut massacrée.

"Protestez, sur mon ordre, auprès des représentants des nations civilisées contre la sauvagerie inouïe de ces monstres massacreurs. Protestez auprès de tout le monde civilisé, et faites savoir que je me verrai forcé avec un grand regret, de recourir aux représailles afin d'inspirer la crainte de la perpétration de telles monstruosités. Les Bulgares renouvellent au vingtième siècle les horreurs sanglantes des hordes sauvages du passé et donnent au monde civilisé la preuve flagrante qu'ils n'en font pas partie."

It was announced on the following day that the King had himself addressed a telegram in the same sense directly to his brother Sovereigns.

I stated in a previous despatch that the offer of Turkish soldiers to fight with the Greeks against the Bulgarians had not been accepted. It appears, however, that the services of some of them have been utilised to act as guards over Bulgarian prisoners interned in this country.

The newspapers report that King Constantine is everywhere acclaimed as a liberator by what remains of the Mussulman populations.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT.

Enclosure in No. 456.

Document communicated to Sir F. Elliot.

Excellence, *Athènes, le 30 juin (13) juillet, 1913.*

C'EST avec une profonde douleur et une vive indignation que la population de la capitale hellénique apprenait les atrocités commises par les Bulgares dès le début de la guerre entreprise par les États alliés. Elle patientait, cependant, espérant toujours que les dirigeants de l'armée et de l'Administration bulgares se raviseraient ou du moins se rassasieraient.

Pourtant de nouveau, depuis que les armées grecques et serbes intièrent leur marche en avant, apres le commencement des hostilites par les Bulgares, nous arrivent sans discontinuer des nouvelles terrifiantes, affirmant que les troupes bulgares qui battent en retraite se livrent toujours à d'horribles atrocites que confirment les rapports officiels, et notamment le télegramme connu adresse a ce sujet au Gouvernement hellenique par le Roi Constantin lui-même

Des evêques et des prêtres sont tués et leurs cadavres mutilés et profanes. Des notables des villes et des villages sont assassinés dans les prisons. Des vieillards et des enfants sont massacrés. Des femmes et des jeunes filles sont violees. Des villes et des villages sont pilés puis incendies. La devastation et la desolation sevissent dans toute leur horreur dans la Macedoine et la Thrace par ou les Bulgares ont passe

La population de la capitale, indignee de ces horreurs, s'est reunie aujourd'hui en un meeting colossal et a vote ce qui suit

"Proteste energiquement auprès des Gouvernements de toutes les nations civilisees contre les crimes et les atrocites qui se commettent non seulement par les irreguliers, mais surtout par les troupes regulières et la gendarmerie bulgares, et cela d'une façon systematique permettant de conclure que les ordres en sont donnés d'en haut

"Elle fait appel à l'opinion publique du monde entier pour stigmatiser la monstrueuse et bestiale persecution des Bulgares contre les populations chretiennes et massacrer la Macedoine et de la Thrace, persecutions qui constituent une honte pour l'humanite. Et elle demande à ce que ces faits pareils ne soient permis à aucun pays de faire desormais partie de la famille europeenne.

"Elle prie votre Excellence de vouloir bien transmettre à son haut Gouvernement ce vote de la population athenienne"

Le Comte
Le Maire d'Athenes,
S. MELOUNIS

Le President du Conseil municipal
J. SOLON

Le Vice-President de l'Ordre des Avocats,
A. MATESIS

Le President du Corps commercial,
D. CARALLAS

Le President des Corporations,
J. PAPAIOANNOU

Le President des Corporations,
L. PAPADOPOULOS

[33437] No. 457

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 186.)

Sir, *Posilipo, July 16, 1913*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 110 of the 11th instant with regard to the question of complying with the request of the Ottoman Government that the Powers should urge the Bulgarian Government to withdraw their troops behind the Medra Lines, I have the honour to report that I have just received a memorandum from the Italian Government stating that the Turkish Government made a verbal communication to the effect that the Porte has decided not to demobilise, and to undertake immediately the occupation of the district up to the line in question, leaving a neutral zone between the territory reoccupied by them and that remaining in the hands of the Bulgarians. In making this communication the Ottoman Ambassador requested that the Italian Government would give advice at Sophia to withdraw the Bulgarian troops as soon as possible in order to avoid the risk of incidents between the forces of the two countries. Instructions in this sense were accordingly sent to the Italian Minister at Sophia.

I have not thought it necessary to report the above by telegraph, as I know from telegrams received from you to-day that the representation in question has been made by all the Powers.

I have, &c.
RENNELL RODD.

[33532] No. 458.

M. Misu to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 21.)

Legation de Roumanie, Londres,
M. le Secretaire d'Etat, *le 10 juillet* 1913.

ME conformant aux instructions de mon Gouvernement, j'ai l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de votre Excellence le texte de la note, ci-jointe en copie, que je viens de recevoir au sujet de l'action roumaine en Bulgarie.

Veuillez, &c.
N. MISU

Enclosure in No. 458.

Roumanian President of Council to M. Misu

EN faisant advancer l'armée roumaine sur la terre bulgare et la faisant camper en une position de concentration en cet endroit, le Gouvernement de l'armée bulgare.

L'action militaire de la Roumanie est donc en premier lieu l'obligation de procurer, maintenant à son territoire l'abri delà du Danube une frontière assurée.

Le conflit actuel entre les Etats balkaniques et notre pays, long et douloureux conflit, dû à l'attitude transigeante du Gouvernement bulgare et à l'agression à laquelle il s'est livré contre ses alliés de hier, oblige le Gouvernement roumain à exiger dans un avenir quelque frontière stratégique s'imposant à la conscience de la Bulgarie pour rendre possible à l'avenir les relations pacifiques entre nous et cet Etat.

Cette frontière est la ligne Tourtoukaia-Dobritch-Baltchik, avec un certain nombre de kilometres à l'ouest et au sud d'après le conformation du terrain.

En outre, il importe essentiel de la Roumanie dans la presqu'île balkanique, et nous empêche de rester simplement spectateurs devant la tentative d'hégemonie que la Bulgarie manifeste ouvertement les autres Etats au lendemain même de la lutte commune de libération.

Elément constant de l'ordre et de paix dans l'Orient et dans l'Europe, la Roumanie a le devoir de participer au règlement définitif d'une question qui, pour trop longtemps, à ses portes mêmes menace, puis trouble la paix générale.

Agissant dans ces conditions pour aboutir à un arrangement définitif entre les belligérants, la Roumanie ne croit pas seulement assurer les intérêts légitimes de toutes les parties directement en cause, mais elle a conscience de seconder aussi les efforts de toutes les Grandes Puissances.

Je vous prie de porter cette note à la connaissance du Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité.

MAIORESCO

Sophia, le 3 (16) juillet, 1913.

[33554] No. 459

Count Mensdorff to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

THE Austro-Hungarian Ambassador presents his compliments to the Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to inform him that the Austro-Hungarian delegate at the International Commission for the delimitation of the Turco-Bulgarian frontier line Enos-Midia, Major Moritz Fischer von Ledenice, has been instructed to start immediately by way of Odessa for Constantinople where he will arrive on the 25th instant.

Austro-Hungarian Embassy, London,
July 19, 1913.

[33552] No. 460.

Tewfik Pasha to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

L'AMBASSADEUR de Turquie presente ses compliments à Sir Edward Grey, et a l'honneur de transmettre ci-après à son Excellence la teneur du telegramme qu'il vient de recevoir de la Sublime Porte au sujet de l'occupation par les troupes ottomanes de la nouvelle frontiere turco-bulgare, avec priere de vouloir bien prendre en considération les raisons y developpées.

Malgré l'empressement que le Gouvernement bulgare avait montré pour signer les preliminaires de paix, il a refusé d'evacuer les territoires qui devraient faire retour à l'Empire.

Il agissait indubitablement dans le but manifeste de s'assurer une frontiere conforme à l'interpretation erronée qu'il entendait donner à la denomination de la ligne Midia-Enos.

C'est seulement lorsque le Gouvernement ottoman, las d'attendre, a donné à son armée l'ordre de reoccuper ses territoires que le Gouvernement bulgare s'est decidé à retirer ses troupes.

D'autre part, le Gouvernement Imperial ottoman, soucieux d'avoir la possibilité de defendre la capitale et le littoral des Dardanelles, a de tout temps insisté et demontré que la seule frontière y repondant et ayant pour point de départ Enos devrait être tracée par une ligne remontant vers le nord en suivant la Maritza.

Le fait que ce tracé n'a pas été fixé tel qu'il devait l'être dans le texte du traité de paix signé à Londres, n'a rien ôté de son droit de vouloir par le désir qu'avaient les Puissances d'écarter les difficultés alors soulevées par la Bulgarie, et l'assurer ainsi le plus rapidement possible la reunion des deux rives à Londres.

Dans cet ordre d'idées, et dans le but principal d'éviter toute complication, le Gouvernement Imperial ottoman s'est adressé directement au Gouvernement bulgare pour lui communiquer les raisons pour lesquelles il est obligé d'insister sur un tracé de frontière suivant la Maritza jusqu'à Andrinople.

Le Gouvernement Imperial ottoman aurait certes preferé de regler cette question avec la Bulgarie par voie diplomatique.

Malheureusement les horreurs auxquelles les Bulgares se livrent dans les territoires occupés avec une barbarie et un vandalisme inouïs, capitales et faubourgs exceptés même ont pu constater avec autant d'indignation que les troupes Impériales empêchent le Gouvernement Imperial ottoman d'attendre une solution diplomatique.

L'experience a demontré d'autre part, que toutes les negociations entamées avec la Bulgarie sont vouées à traîner indefiniment en longueur.

Dans ces conditions, le Gouvernement Imperial ottoman se voit obligé d'occuper dès maintenant la frontière en question en s'engageant à fixer d'accord avec les Puissances le sort futur de la Thrace.

Il s'empresse d'ajouter que dans son désir de respecter les décisions des Grandes Puissances d'une part, et celui d'etablir avec la Bulgarie des relations normales et durables, d'autre part, il considère ledit tracé comme une frontière definitive en s'engageant à ne la dépasser sous aucun pretexte.

Le Gouvernement Imperial ottoman aime à espérer que les Grandes Puissances voudront bien reconnaître que la guerre actuelle entre les Etats balkaniques et les combinaisons préconisées pour la Thrace l'obligent doublement à s'assurer un moment plus tôt une frontiere garantissant la securité de la capitale, et que, tenant compte de la situation toute particulière dans laquelle se trouve la Thrace, elles donneront, de leur côté, à la Bulgarie des conseils nécessaires pour assurer une solution favorable et pacifique de la question dans le sens ci-dessus exposé.

Le Gouvernement Imperial ottoman croit devoir reserver dores et déjà toute la responsabilité d'une reprise éventuelle des hostilités.

Ambassade Imperiale ottomane, Londres,
le 20 juillet, 1913.

[33545] No. 461.

M. Vonovitch to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

Montenegrin Legation, London,
July 20, 1913.

Your Excellency,

ON the 12th July I had the honour to submit to your Excellency a copy of the note addressed by the Government of His Majesty the King of Montenegro to the representatives of the Powers at Cettinje touching the evacuation of Albanian territory by the Montenegrin troops.

In accordance with the terms of this note, dated the 10th July, the Montenegrin troops completely evacuated Albania on Tuesday, the 15th July.

The Montenegrin Government has thus complied with the sole stipulation which, according to the repeated assurances of the British Foreign Office, was a condition precedent to the Powers arranging a financial compensation to Montenegro.

I beg to call your Excellency's attention to a letter from Sir L. Mallet on behalf of your Excellency, dated the 16th July, addressed to myself and also to the repeated assurances referred to above and more particularly to the verbal note of His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Cettinje of the 21st May, and trust that your Excellency will take advantage of an Ambassadors meeting to bring up for discussion the granting of a financial compensation to Montenegro commensurate with the heavy sacrifices involved in the evacuation of Scutari, as counselled in the resolution of the Powers.

I should greatly esteem it if your Excellency would graciously inform me of the result of their deliberations, which, I need hardly say, affect the most vital interests of my country.

I am, &c.
L. VOINOVITCH.

[33594] No. 462.

M. Mincoff to Sir W. Tyrrell.—(Received July 21.)

Bulgarian Legation, 3, Queensberry Place,
London, July 20, 1913.

Dear Sir William,

I BEG to transmit the enclosed telegram which reached me this morning. I have since received a further communication from M. Ghennadief to the effect that the Bulgarian Government has renewed its offer to Roumania. It consents so to cede to that country the territories to the north-east of the line Toutrakan-Balchik, and to conclude with it a lasting arrangement. For that purpose Bulgaria is prepared to commence immediate negotiations, leaving it to the Cabinet of Bucharest to fix all the details as regards precise form, time and place. As a token of future friendship, the Bulgarian Government asks for the withdrawal of the Roumanian army beyond the Danube and the said Toutrakan-Balchik line.

M. Ghennadief expresses the fervent hope that Great Britain will lend her aid for the speedy attainment of a pacific understanding between Bulgaria and Roumania.

I shall be extremely grateful if you will kindly communicate the enclosed documents with the contents of this to Sir E. Grey.

Yours sincerely,
C. C. MINCOFF.

P.S.—I have just received the following telegram from M. Ghennadief:—

"Fighting took place this morning near Adrianople between the small Bulgarian forces and the Turkish army from Bulair. The Turkish troops are accompanied by large numbers of bashi-bazouks. After the retreat of our forces the Turkish soldiers and irregulars gave themselves up to looting, and committed terrible excesses wherever they passed. The panic-stricken population is fleeing towards Old Bulgaria."

Kindly bring this under the notice of Sir E. Grey. I understood that until yesterday you had no admission from Constantinople that the Turkish army was advancing. The above is an edifying comment on the Turkish reticence.

C. C. M.

Enclosure in No 463

Papers communicated by M. Mincof

Telegram from M. Ghennadief

(1)

DESIROUS of terminating the present crisis by pacific means, the first act of the new Bulgarian Government after its formation was, on the night of the 17th (18th) July, until through the intermediary of the Italian Minister in Sophia, to approach the Roumanian Government with a proposal for the speedy restoration of normal and friendly relations between Bulgaria and Roumania. Yesterday His Majesty the King received a telegram from His Majesty the King of Roumania in answer to this communication of the 16th instant. The contents of this reply give ground for the hope that the sincere intentions of the Bulgarian Government will meet with a friendly reception on the part of Roumania. Besides, the Bulgarian Government yesterday declared through the Russian Legation at Sophia its readiness to despatch delegates to Nish for the purpose of negotiating with the Servians and the Greeks. Such being its disposition, the Bulgarian Government learns with regret that on the 17th instant the Servian and the Greek troops have undertaken a combined forward movement all along the fighting line. The Bulgarian commanders on the spot naturally could not allow such a thing to pass without offering resistance. However great the wish of the Bulgarian headquarters and of the Bulgarian Government to remain on the defensive, we are afraid that the development of the military operations, and the recriminations of the officers, might oblige the commanding officers to order a flagrant breach of this sacred, night obligation. For the purpose of avoiding such an eventuality and in its anxiety to give a further proof of its sincere policy the Bulgarian Government is willing to issue immediate orders to the Bulgarian army for the cessation of military operations provided the Greek and the Servian Governments undertake to act in the same manner.

(2.)

The Bulgarian Legation has received the following information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sophia:

1. All the Bulgarian villages in the district of Kavadartzi (Tikvesh), on the right bank of Vardar, were burnt down by the Servians and Portuk bashi-bazouks on the 23rd June (O.S.). The younger women were carried off, a certain number of them being subsequently killed. The remaining population fled away. The small towns of Kavadartzi and Negotin suffered the same fate on the 27th and 28th June (O.S.). Part of the population was massacred, the others succeeded in escaping, a considerable number having already reached Bulgaria.

2. The military commandant of Dedeagatch reports that several Bulgarian villages in the neighbourhood of Issida have been burned by the Turks. According to other reports, the Bulgarian inhabitants of the village of Bulgarkeuy, near Keshan, have been massacred.

3. The officer commanding the Bulgarian troops on the Turco-Bulgarian frontier reports that numerous bashi-bazouk bands accompany the Turkish troops, and give themselves up to ravaging the Christian villages. Among them there are many former Turkish prisoners of war, who have been recently set free. The inhabitants are in flight, and the roads are full of refugees.

[33872] No. 463

Memorandum communicated by Count Mensdorff, July 21, 1913.

VERS la mi-mars soixante-quatorze Albanais musulmans, originaires des villages entre Kolate et Adjonat, ont été assassinés par les antartes (comitadji) grecs commandés par Delvinaki pour la seule raison qu'ils étaient Albanais.

Les premiers jours d'avril des officiers grecs forçaient la population albanaise des districts de Kolonia et Leskovik de signer des adresses demandant l'annexion à la Grèce. Le nommé Rahmi, de Leskovik, est arrêté et emprisonné parce qu'il se prononce pour l'Albanie.

L'école albanaise à Leskovik est fermée.

Les Albanais sont forcés de venir à un meeting à Yanina le 20 avril pour démontrer en faveur de l'union à la Grèce.

Plus d'une centaine d'Albanais provenant de la Tchamerie, de Leskovik, de Delvino, &c., se trouvent dans la prison de Yanina. Les autorités grecques se servent des prétextes les plus futiles pour motiver les arrestations d'Albanais. Il suffit de citer entre autres les cas suivants:

Un bey albanais est transporté garrotté d'Argyrokastro à Yanina, rien que parce qu'il avait répondu à un salut grec en albanais.

On fit rendre compte à un Albanais orthodoxe de Leskovik du fait qu'il avait gardé le fez comme couvre-chef. Sa réponse est à laquelle il fit ressortir qu'aucune loi n'était connue interdisant aux Albanais orthodoxes de porter le fez, suffit pour qu'on le mette en prison sous prétexte d'idées grecophobes.

Le canton de Kurvelesht au nord d'Argyrokastro entre cette ville et Tepéleni qui est habité exclusivement par des Albanais musulmans est le premier à commencement d'avril soumis à une série de vexations par la gendarmerie grecque pour la seule raison que les habitants sont Albanais et musulmans; les soldats terrorisent les chefs de village, ils saisissent le bétail, ils garrottent les bergers et leur appliquent la bastonnade, &c.

La même oppression est exercée contre la population du district de Tepéleni dont le chef-lieu et la partie nord d'après la ligne frontière proposée par les Grecs (jonction du Dinas et de la Voïoussa-Kliscoura, sur la Voïoussa) devraient être laissés à l'Albanie.

Ces faits laissent entrevoir de la répression exercée par les Grecs sur la population indigène du territoire en contestation entre l'Albanie et la Grèce.

Il ne paraît pas juste d'exiger comme une des conditions préalables pour la nomination d'une commission de délimitation que les agents grecs s'abstiennent de tout acte semblable afin que la commission ait à opérer sur un terrain débarrassé et préparé et travaillé en faveur des prétentions grecques.

Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres,
le 21 juillet 1913.

[33880] No. 464

Memorandum communicated by Count Mensdorff, July 21, 1913.

Observations sur les Mémoires présentés par les délégués grecophiles de l'Epire et de Koritza

UNE discussion des mémoires présentés par les délégués grecophiles du sandjak (département) d'Argyrokastro et ceux de Koritza serait oiseuse, mais les statistiques y données offrent une base plus sûre pour former un jugement sur la valeur de ces mémoires.

Le premier mémoire donne comme population du district d'Argyrokastro le total de 70,500 habitants, dont 43,500 orthodoxes et 27,000 musulmans.

Il faut d'abord noter que ces deux derniers chiffres donnent le total de 70,500, il y a donc une erreur de 1,000 habitants.

Or, l'Administration grecque de l'Epire a procédé dernièrement à un recensement de la population. Le journal 'Epire,' de Janina, en a publié les résultats dans son numéro du 25 mai (v.s.). Ces chiffres officiels sont pour le district d'Argyrokastro —

Orthodoxes	22,928
Musulmans	20,126
Total habitants	43,054

Pour les cinq districts Argyrokastro, Delvino, Tepélen, Himara et Prémeti

Orthodoxes	68,417
Musulmans	61,500
Total habitants	129,917

Les chiffres donnés dans le mémoire ne sont donc exacts ni pour le district, ni pour la province d'Argyrokastro. Cette grande majorité orthodoxe (64 pour cent contre 36 pour cent) qu'ils veulent montrer n'existe pas.

Le mémoire donne la statistique scolaire suivante d'écoles —

Écoles—	
Secondaires	2
Primaires—	
Garçons	176
Filles	16
	267
Élèves—	
Garçons	955
Filles	2,480
	9,435
Personnel enseignant—	
Maîtres	295
Maîtresses	81
	376

M. Venizelos a fait envoyer le 3 janvier à toutes les ambassades un mémoire auquel était annexé un tableau de l'état scolaire en Épire, d'après ce tableau le district d'Argyrokastro possède

Écoles	21
Maîtres	59
Élèves	1,916

Tous les cinq districts ensemble ont —

Écoles	128
Maîtres	160
Élèves	5,326

Les chiffres donnés par les délégués grecophiles comparés avec les chiffres officiels grecs sont plus grands pour les écoles de 139, pour les maîtres de 216, pour les élèves de 1,109.

De reste il est raisonnable de soutenir qu'une population de 48,500, envoie 9,435 enfants à l'école, c'est-à-dire, presque 20 pour cent.

Comme églises et monastères les délégués prétendent

Églises	660
Monastères	46

Le tableau officiel susmentionne comme le chiffre des monastères pour le district d'Argyrokastro 6 pour tous les cinq districts, 32.

A ce mémoire de M. Venizélos était annexé une carte montrant toutes les églises du vilayet de Yanina, d'après cette carte le nombre d'églises est pour le district d'Argyrokastro, 60, pour les cinq districts, 200.

Donc aussi ces chiffres sont grossement exagérés dans le mémoire des délégués épirotes.

Le mémoire pour Kortza donne la statistique scolaire suivante —

	Écoles.	Élèves.
Ville de Kortza	4	2,200
Villages du district de Kortza	120	12,000
Total	124	14,200

Le consulat grec de Monastir à donné en 1903 le nombre d'écoles 41, le nombre d'élèves 3,452

Le tableau du mémoire de M. Venizélos donne —

Écoles	44
Maîtres	83
Élèves	3,652

Pour caractériser l'exagération du mémoire des délégués de Kortza il suffit de faire ressortir que la population chrétienne du district de Kortza est à peu près 35,000, si les écoles grecques sont fréquentées par 14,200 élèves alors presque la moitié de la population est sur les bancs des écoles grecques, encore laissant hors de calcul les écoles valaques.

Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres
le 21 juillet, 1913

[33635] No. 455

Memorandum communicated by the Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires, July 21.

THE Bulgarian Legation has received official reports of the following occurrences.

1. On the 8th July the small Bulgarian force on occupation of Demir Hissar evacuated that place. Immediately after its departure the Greek inhabitants of the town pillaged the Government offices and the arms depot, and started pursuing the retreating Bulgarian soldiers, several of whom were killed. On the following day the Bulgarian troops coming from Serres learned about these events and went to Demir Hissar to restore order and punish the guilty parties. The Greek priest opened fire from the window of his house. During the fusillade which ensued people were killed on both sides. On the same day the Greeks set on fire the Bulgarian villages of Gorni Poroi, Dolni Poroi, Strokovo, and Keskiz.

2. The Greeks have burned the following villages in the district of Serres: Orehovo, Dsouth, Bantza, Dolno-Brod, Gorno-Brod, Kortchovo, Tzarevitza, Lelovo, Dolno-Stanchevo, Marmopolie, Levounovo, and several others. At Serres about 300 wounded and sick Bulgarian soldiers and several functionaries who remained behind after the evacuation of the town by the Bulgarian troops were massacred by the Greeks. In the district of Kilkish the Greek cavalry sabred all the fleeing inhabitants whom it could reach, while the Greek artillery set on fire many villages which were outside the zone of fighting. At this hour the purely Bulgarian district of Kilkish presents the appearance of a vast desert.

Bulgarian Legation, London, July 21, 1913

[33597] No. 466.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 21.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 21*, 1913.

WITH reference to your letter of the 15th instant, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a telegram, dated the 20th instant, from Vice-Admiral Burney relative to telegraphic communication with Scutari.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 466.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *July 20*, 1913.

COMMUNICATION by telegraph through Valona to Scutari now open.

[33601] No. 467

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 181.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Belgrade, July 21, 1913.*
BALKANS.

Bulgarian mission, consisting of two generals and three other officers, arrived at Nisch yesterday for the purpose of negotiating armistice.

The Prime Minister informs me that, as they gave no warning of their intended arrival, they will have to wait two or three days until it is possible for the Greek and Roumanian Premiers to arrive, as he has no intention of discussing with them alone.

He said that the conditions had not yet been decided upon, but repeated that so far as Servia is concerned, there is no desire to be too severe on Bulgaria.

(Sent to Sofia, Bucharest and Athens.)

[33623] No. 468

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 141.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July 21, 1913.*
BALKANS.

My telegram No. 169 of 11th July.

In reply to Russian proposal for immediate cessation of hostilities and for mediation at St. Petersburgh, Montenegrin Government have authorised Servian Prime Minister to reply on their behalf in similar terms to those employed in Servian answer.

[33624] No. 469.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.— Received July 21.

(No. 209.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 21, 1913.*

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs told me on Saturday that he instructed Russian Ambassador to ask you to discuss with Ambassadors measures to be taken to stop Turkish advance. In conversation to-day after receipt of news of occupation of Adrianople, I said that he would await result of that discussion and that, if it was satisfactorily settled, the Powers were prepared to have recourse even to coercive measures, he would associate himself with them. If, on the contrary, they shrank from idea of coercion, as last resort he would have to act alone.

Turkish Ambassador had communicated to him latest proposals of his Government with regard to Enclitia frontier and had contended that Turkey had the same right to intervene as Roumania.

Minister for Foreign Affairs had replied that from juridical point of view she might possess this right, but circumstances were different, and Russia could never allow emancipated Christian population to be replaced under Turkish rule. Question of frontier was a *res adjudicata*, and if Turkey declined to accept it Russia would be obliged, with or without other Powers, to take extraordinary measures.

[33605] No. 470.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 21.)

(No. 145.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Vienna, July 21, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 203 of 8th July. Duties at Scutari.

The Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs have communicated following observations:—

In as far as extra duties on alcohol mean only increase of the said duties in accordance with Turkish law of 13th (26th) August, 1912, proceeds of which were affected to expenses of the war, this war tax might be abolished. It does not serve as a guarantee of debt.

2. Revenue from sale of salt and lease of fishing rights have continued to be paid to the Ottoman Debt Commissioners and forms part of guarantee of the debt.

3. One hundred per cent. surtax might cease and taxes be reduced to normal rate of 11 per cent. *ad valorem*.

International Commission at Scutari can for the duration of its functions make use of all taxes which do not serve as guarantee of the Ottoman Debt.

(Copy by post.)

[33610] No. 471.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 130.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Athens, July 21, 1913.*
BALKANS.

Following from the military attaché for the Director of Military Operations:—

"According to to-day's reports the Greek advance along the whole line continues. The right, after entering Nevrokop and taking twenty-two guns in attack on Papas Cajir Koprivljan position, is moving up Messta Valley. Centre drove back enemy yesterday from his positions towards the entrance to Kresna defile. Left occupied Pehcevo, and have moved on to watershed north of that place."

(Sent to Bucharest.)

[33619] No. 472.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 21.)

(No. 131.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 21, 1913.*
BALKANS.

Bulgarians have agreed to send delegate to Nisch to discuss preliminaries of peace. Frontier proposed by Greece will be line of Beles Mountain up to and including Demi Hissar, thence north-east to Pereric and south-east to Makri, near Dedeagatch. War indemnity to cover expenses, compensation to the wounded and families, and value of property destroyed. Bulgaria to demobilise.

I said to the Prime Minister, when he told me above, that the frontier proposed extended much too far east. He contended that it only established approximate equality between Greece, Servia, and Bulgaria, that it was impossible now to concede to Bulgaria the preponderance which would have been accepted before, that the line to Makri gave a better strategical frontier than the line of Chyulah to Lagos, and that populations included in it are entirely Greek and Mussulman. Although populations of Adrianople would prefer Turks to the Bulgarians, he does not wish Turks to retake Adrianople as it would disturb the equilibrium, but he would be glad to see Turkish frontier extended to the Ergene River, as it would deliver a considerable Greek population from the Bulgarians. He believes that Roumania will be content with Turtukai-Baltchik line, and will agree to send a delegate to Nisch.

(Sent to Belgrade with request to report to Sophia and Bucharest.)

[33620] No. 473.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 132.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 21, 1913.*

MY despatch No. 169.

Negotiations for resumption of relations with Turkey progressing. Question of compensation for detention of Greek ships and for maintenance of prisoners of war to be referred to Paris Commission. *Status quo ante bellum* to be resumed, but Turkey demands restoration of prisoners before ratification, which Greece refuses, fearing that they might be used against Adrianople or even against Greek troops in Thrace.

[33621] No. 474.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 138.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 21, 1913.*

BELGRADE telegram No. 181 of 21st July

Greece will be represented by late Greek Minister at Sophia who will leave for Nisch to-morrow

(Sent to Belgrade.)

[33381] No. 475.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 21.)

(No. 352.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 20, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Porte has communicated for the representatives, through the doyen of the Diplomatic Body copy of circular telegram sent to Ottoman Ambassadors to the Great Powers

It announces that the Porte has decided to occupy Thrace up to the line of the Maritza, as such a line is necessary for the defence of the capital, and engages to come to an agreement with the Powers as to the future of Thrace agreed to. Porte hopes that Powers will induce Bulgaria to acquiesce.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[33617] No. 476.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 123.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest July 21, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 122 of 20th July. Balkans

Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs has replied direct by telegraph to the Roumanian Minister for Foreign Affairs that Bulgarian Government also are anxious for prompt cessation of hostilities, and that they ask Roumania to name delegates and choose a place for the negotiation of armistice. Telegram says nothing about the despatch of the Bulgarian delegates to Nisch, and Bulgaria evidently clings to the hope of inducing Roumania to negotiate separately from her co-belligerents.

Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33622] No. 477.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 124.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 21, 1913.*

BALKANS.

The Greek Minister to-day informed the Roumanian Government that his Government meant on signature of peace preliminaries at the theatre of war, and he proposed that Roumania should send delegates.

The Servian Minister also has informed the Roumanian Government that the Bulgarian Government have sent delegates to Nisch, and he has asked the Roumanian Government to send delegates there to negotiate armistice and peace preliminaries.

The Roumanian Government, though ready to send delegates for the negotiation of armistice, desire that peace preliminaries should be negotiated at Bucharest or Sinaia.

It is to be feared that their *amour-propre* blinds them to the advantages of the speedier course proposed by Greece and Servia.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33976] No. 478.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 232.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 21, 1913.*

I AM most anxious to get an agreement about the organisation of Albania. The objection to the words suggested in paragraph 7 of the Austro-Italian draft, "le fonctionnement des autorités nationales qui administrent leur pays provisoirement et de fait," is that intrigues of men such as Essad and Ismail Kemal have given rise to a suspicion that some national Government in Albania has been created entirely under Austrian and Italian influence. On the other hand, I suppose objection of Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs to amendment of French Ambassador is that the words "choisira ses agents d'execution" suggest an instruction to the International Commission to disregard or supersede existing local authorities. I believe both objections could be reconciled by adoption of words suggested by me to-day: "Le fonctionnement de l'administration, y compris la gendarmerie, sera contrôlée par la Commission internationale avec le concours des autorités locales."

If this could be accepted, I believe that prolongation of commission from five years to ten would secure agreement on all the rest.

I think Minister for Foreign Affairs must feel that assent of Russian Government to the submission to the Powers of any arrangements come to by the five belligerents in their terms of peace has greatly eased the general situation between the Powers and I confirmed the prospect of final agreement between them.

I hope, therefore, that Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs will do his utmost to facilitate agreement about Albania on points which seem to be rather of form than of substance.

[33976] No. 479.

*Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Carnegie.**

(No. 290.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 21, 1913.*

AT to-day's meeting of Ambassadors I expressed the opinion that the five belligerent States Roumania, Servia, Greece, Montenegro, and Bulgaria should be encouraged to appoint their delegates in order to terminate hostilities and to come to an agreement on the conditions for their re-establishment of peace. The arrangements to which they may arrive will be submitted to the examination and approval of the Powers, who will come to an understanding between themselves.

No objection to this proposal was raised by the Ambassadors, who will submit it to their respective Governments for their approval.

Above is for your information.

[34276] No. 480.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 152.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 21, 1913.*

THE Austrian Ambassador gave me to-day the following communication:—

"*Évacuation de l'Albanie par les Serbes.*

"Il est absolument contraire à toute raison que les troupes serbes, en alléguant le motif de vouloir assurer une frontière stratégique contre l'Albanie, tiennent occupés des points sur le territoire albanais éloignés de la ligne frontière fixée par les Puissances entre 30 et 40 kilom

* Also to Earl Granville (No. 279), Sir F. Cartwright (No. 281), Sir R. Rodd (No. 222), and Mr. O'Beirne (No. 547).

"Les Puissances dans leurs démarches répétées demandant une évacuation avaient certainement en vue que les Serbes se retirent sur la ligne fixée par les Puissances. C'est cette ligne que la commission pour délimiter la frontière sur les lieux suivra dans ces travaux, cette commission ne s'enfoncera pas dans l'intérieur de l'Albanie, où les troupes serbes stationnent actuellement.

"Le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal propose de faire une nouvelle démarche énergique à Belgrade pour faire enfin respecter la volonté manifestée de l'Europe.

"La ligne occupée par les Serbes dans l'intérieur de l'Albanie part d'Orochi, chef-lieu de la Mirditie, et aboutit au seul au passage Tchafa Sais, dans le voisinage d'Elbassan; elle comprend les localités Mal Cheni, Mali Danse Tchafa Mourse, Vali Tchafa Sais.

"*Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres, le 21 juillet*, 1913."

He said that he had referred to bringing it before the *réunion* because he was most anxious to get an agreement with Count Benckendorff about the formula as to the protection of minorities, which would make the settlement of the questions dependent upon it quicker.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[33974] No. 481

Sir E. Grey to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 185.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 21, 1913.*

"THE Italian Ambassador told me this afternoon that his Government were most emphatically opposed to the creation of an autonomous Macedonia. It would set on foot again the régime of intrigues and kinds of rivalry between the Powers. They were, therefore entirely in accord and delighted with what I had said in reply to Mr. Noe Buxton in the House of Commons the other day, in deprecating this proposal as impracticable.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[33975] No. 482

Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 186.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 21, 1913.*

THE Italian Ambassador referred to-day to the suggestion that Count Berchtold wished to bring forward a proposal that the Powers should promise to agree to the abolition of the Capitulations in Albania as soon as Austria and Italy, who had a privileged position there, propose the change. The Italian Ambassador and his Government regarded this as a hopeless and untenable proposition that would upset everything, but he would like to know my view.

I said that, if this proposal was made, it would be taken to be the beginning of an Austro-Italian protectorate over Albania, and would render it useless to discuss the question of Albania any more at the *réunion*. It would, in fact, go far to break up the *réunion*. Apart from these considerations, we could lead up to the *réunion* with nothing except the organisation of Albania and the demarcation of the southern frontier before we engaged, especially in view of the fact that we should be concerning ourselves with recent developments respecting Adrianople and the war between the Balkan States.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[32416] No. 483.

Sir Edward Grey to Count Mensdorff.

HIS Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador and with reference to His Excellency's memorandum of the 30th ultimo regarding the flying of an Albanian flag over churches and mosques at Scutari, has the honour to inform Count Mensdorff that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have been requested to instruct Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to support the proposal of his Austro-Hungarian colleague. If his other colleagues are similarly instructed.

Foreign Office, July 21, 1913.

[33325] No. 484.

Foreign Office to Director of Military Operations.

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the Director of Military Operations and is directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of his communication of the 18th instant enquiring whether steps could be taken to obtain further military attachés to His Majesty's Legations at Athens preferential treatment as regards accompanying the Greek army in the field.

Sir E. Grey intended to telegraph to His Majesty's Minister at Athens on receipt of Sir F. Elliot's report of how applications were dealt with on other occasions before this action could be taken; a telegram, copy of which is enclosed, was received from Sir F. Elliot on the subject.*

Sir A. Nicolson is to enquire whether, in view of the terms of this message, Brigadier-General Wilson would wish Lieutenant-Colonel Cunliffe-Owen to be recalled at once.

Foreign Office, July 21, 1913.

[32416] No. 485.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 21, 1913.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 18th instant, enclosing a key to a telegram No. 21 of the 13th instant from Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney regarding flying of the Albanian flag over certain boat flags at Scutari, I am directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to state that he would be glad if the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty would instruct Sir C. Burney by telegraph to support the proposal of his Austro-Hungarian colleague, as set forth in my letter of the 21st instant, if his other colleagues are similarly instructed.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[33674] No. 486.

Lord Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 64. Confidential.)

Sir, *Berne, July 21, 1913.*

WITH reference to my telegrams Nos. 61 and 62 of the 18th and 19th instant respectively, I have the honour to report that the German Secretary of State for the Foreign Office drew me aside after dinner last night, and spoke very seriously on the subject of an international conference on the Balkans. He said he had heard that

* No. 483.

Russia meant to propose the holding of such a conference at Paris, and he was very anxious indeed that this idea should not be allowed to expand into an actual proposal. He repeated what he had said to me two days ago, viz. that the Ambassadors' Conference in London had shown how very slow and cumbersome such a proceeding was, with the perpetual danger of differences of opinion between the two groups of Powers becoming acute, and that, in addition to this objection in principle, he did not see where the conference could advantageously meet. St. Petersburgh and Vienna were obviously impossible, owing to their being too closely interested in the matter, Rome was an inhabitable at this time of year. Berlin he would not hear of, and as to London, to which he would have no objection whatever, he presumed that you would be unwilling to undertake a second conference. Paris he strongly objected to, chiefly because of M. Isvolsky who, he said, was so devoured by ambition and self importance that he became difficulties over everything, and had unfortunately made himself such a position in Paris that he really terrorised the French Government, and had the press at his beck and call. He feared M. Sazonof disliked M. Isvolsky very much, but, having served under him, could not overcome a certain fear of and respect for him.

I said I had no instructions as to your views with respect to a conference, but I presumed that if the French Government wished to have a conference in Paris it would be difficult for you to refuse. Herr von Jagow naturally agreed, and said that he himself would very much dislike to refuse a French invitation, and it was for this reason that he had instructed Count Pourtalès to do all he could to prevent Russia asking the proposal to be first stated as coming very clearly without actually naming M. Isvolsky, and I was glad to convey to you his very earnest hope that you would use your influence in Paris, the more especially in St. Petersburgh, where there was yet time to dissuade the other Government from proposing a conference.

I asked him if he could refuse quite definitely to have the conference at Berlin, and he said that, as it would reduce the importance of the meeting, he would much prefer not to have it there.

He considered, by far the best solution was that a conference of all the Balkan States should meet at Bucharest, the Ministers would be on the spot, could exercise a certain influence with or without it—he did not care about details—and eventually could ratify the settlement agreed upon. He quite agreed with Russia that the settlement must be ratified by the Great Powers, but he considered that the ratification could be given just as well by their representatives at Bucharest as by a solemn conference elsewhere.

I understood Herr von Jagow to say that Russia did not appear to be opposed to the idea of a Balkan conference at Bucharest, provided there were an international conference afterwards to ratify the settlement.

I have, &c.
GRANVILLE.

[33774] No. 187

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 22.)

Sir, *Downing Street, July 21, 1913.*

I AM directed by Mr. Secretary Harcourt to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th July, with reference to the Cyprus Income Tax Question, and to request you to inform Secretary Sir E. Grey that he concurs generally in the views expressed in the papers enclosed therewith. He is of opinion, however, that the British delegates should add that, as a matter of fact, there would be no surplus over the amount of the interest of the 1855 loan, but a large deficit, if the British Government did not supplement the revenues of Cyprus with a contribution which at present amounts to 50,000*l.* annually.

I am, &c.
(For the Under-Secretary of State),
H. J. READ.

[33801] No. 188.

Admiralty to Foreign Office. (Received July 22.)

(Confidential.)
Sir, *Admiralty, July 22, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram, dated the 21st instant, from the Admiralty relative to Montenegrin affairs.

I am, &c.
WILLIAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 188.

Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney.

Telegraphic. *Admiralty, July 21, 1913.*

PROPOSAL of your Austrian colleague, as stated by Naval Attaché, to be supported by you if other members of the Fleet mission receive like instructions from their Governments.

[33810] No. 189.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—Received July 22.

(Confidential.)
Sir, *Admiralty, July 22, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs copy of a telegram, dated to-day, from Vice-Admiral Burney.

I am, &c.
WILLIAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 189.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *July 22, 1913.*

PRESENT Italian contingent of 200 to be replaced by 285 troops and 3 officers, who are now being sent.

[33715] No. 190

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 354.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 21, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 333 of 13th July. Reform schemes.

With reference to penultimate paragraph, Russian Ambassador declared that Russian influence with Armenians was sufficient to prevent disorders being created to provoke Russian intervention.

[33735] No. 191

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 355.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 21, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My telegram No. 352 of 20th July.

I venture to offer some observations on the situation created by the latest action of Turkey.

The Turks have disregarded the warnings addressed to them by the Powers, and if they are not reminded, as was Montenegro in the question of Scutari, that the will of Europe and the decision arrived at by the Treaty of London cannot be ignored they will argue that the concert of the Powers is broken up, and will believe that collective pressure will not be brought to bear in the matter of Armenian reforms.

As to their present proposals, frontier for which they are now asking recognition is that at which was proposed after the *coup d'État* of 23rd January in reply to the collective note of 17th January, and rejected as basis of mediation solicited by Hakki Pasha. Subsequently the Turks placed themselves at the hands of the Powers, and received assurances of material and financial aid. By reverting to the Enos-Maritza line the Turks would appear to forfeit those assurances.

The Turkish argument that Adrianople is necessary for the defence of the capital is shown to be vain by the events of last year, when Constantinople was saved rather by European considerations than by Turkish arms, and Von der Goltz Pasha has laid it down that the real defences of Constantinople consist in the lines of Bulair and Chatalja.

The second proposal of the communiqué, that the Porte wishes to settle the future of Turkey in concert with the Powers, is aimed at forming an autonomous province reaching as far west as Mesta River up to the old Bulgarian frontier. Sophia telegram No. 288 of 19th July appears to show that the intention is to occupy these districts, while fighting at Uzun Kupru may furnish pretext for advance of regular troops, and we may be confronted with awkward complication. The creation of such an autonomous province might well bring up the question of autonomy of Macedonia, which is one of the aims of powerful Salonican element of the Committee of Union and Progress. It opens up long vista of rocky roadsteads. There is reason to believe that Turkey hopes to extract Greek support for the proposals as regards Thrace.

The Russian Ambassador is much impressed by the necessity for resisting the Turkish proposals. He is telegraphing to his Government urging that the Porte should be informed that financial support will be withheld, and suggesting that, if it does not suffice to restrain Turkey, Russia should make a demonstration in the Caucasus.

He thinks that slight modification of the Enos-Midia direct line might be conceded to Turkey.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[33717] No. 442

Sir H. Lane-Poole to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 304.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 21, 191*
BALKANS.
My telegram No. 301 of 18th July.
Bulgarian guns now going out. Heavy artillery ammunition

[33718] No. 195

Sir H. Lane-Poole to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 22.)

(No. 305.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 21, 1913.*
BALKANS.
Bulgarian Government have offered to send delegates to conference of belligerents at any place considered suitable by Roumanian Government. At the same time they have proposed immediate armistice.
(Sent to Bucharest and Belgrade.)

[34487] No. 494.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 306.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 21, 1913.*
MY telegram No. 293 of 19th July.
King of the Bulgarians has sent me copy of further personal group contact] which he had sent to King of Roumania last night.
It urgently pleads for conclusion of an immediate peace with Roumania, adding that Bulgarian Government equally desire peace with Servia and Greece as a proof of which they have sent delegates to (? Nisch). His Majesty states that he and his Government are ready to give any guarantees necessary to show sincerity of their intentions, and he trusts that these intentions will be sufficient to arrest the advance of the Roumanian forces.
(Sent to Bucharest and Belgrade.)

[33825] No. 49.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 307.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 21, 191*
BALKANS.
My telegram No. 300 of 21st July.
Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me to-day that Bulgaria is prepared to accept almost any terms from [illegible].

(Confidential.)
I have reason to believe that Austrian Minister has informed Bulgarian Government that Austro-Hungarian Government will reopen at once the question of the status of disputed territories with a view to upsetting arrangement now likely to be made.
This would further be by assembling of European concentration army [illegible] vassal sanjak.
Above promise will give Bulgarian Government the right to say to belligerents.
(Sent to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[33826] No. 450

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 22.)

(No. 308.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 22, 191*
BALKANS.
After severe fighting between Demir Hissar and Nevrokop, second Greek force is pushing south of Lake towards Philippopolis. This has not been yet published here.
Bulgarian Government contemplate armistice about Turkish advance.
(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[33716] No. 197

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 120.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 21, 1 [illegible]*
MY immediately preceding telegram of 21st July. Balkans.
Yesterday Roumanian Government instructed their representatives at Belgrade and Athens to propose to the respective Governments that negotiations for armistice should be conducted at Nisch, where delegates should meet as soon as possible and that negotiations for peace preliminaries should take place here.
I find that my French and Russian colleagues are strongly in favour of proposed procedure.
(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33756] No. 498.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 126.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 22, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Yesterday the Roumanian Government gave a formal assurance to the Italian Minister, for communication to the Bulgarian Government, that the Roumanian troops will not advance beyond the mountain passes.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33823] No. 499.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

No. 128.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Bucharest, July 22, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Following from the military attaché for the Director of Military Operations —

It was officially announced last night that a mixed Roumanian force occupied Orkhanie, 30 miles north-east of Sophia, 19th July.

'The general situation appears to be as follows —

"A cavalry division of six regiments has reached Berkovitsa. A second cavalry division has reached Orkhanie. These two divisions are supported by infantry and artillery of the IVth Army Corps, which crossed the Danube on 13th July. The main body of the army has completed the passage of the river, but is still close to it. In the eastern theatre of operations the three regiments of cavalry which are with the Vth Army Corps have occupied part of Rustchuk. Vidin without entering those towns.

It is considered here that Bulgarian army is entirely incapable of taking the offensive.'

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33824] No. 500.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 130.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 22, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My immediately preceding telegram of 22nd July.

Notwithstanding Roumania's objections to peace preliminaries preceding armistice, I gather from the account which the Minister for Foreign Affairs gave me to-day of his reply to telegram from Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs (see my telegram No. 129 of 21st July) that, while expressing his readiness to negotiate and informing Bulgarian Government of the procedure he had proposed at Athens and Belgrade, he told Bulgarian Government that he regarded following points as already conceded by Bulgaria:—

1. Turtukai line (as defined in circular to the Powers of 16th July,);
2. Treatment of Kutzo-Vlachs as provided in the St. Petersburgh protocol; and
3. The application of the principle laid down in the St. Petersburgh protocol of an unfortified zone to the neighbourhoods of Rustchuk, Schumla, and Baltchik.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33822] No. 501.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 182.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 22, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Servian Government show some annoyance at attempts being made by Bulgaria to treat with Roumania separately from Greece and Servia. Their view is now that only purely military questions, such as cessation of hostilities and demobilisation, can be treated with Bulgarian delegates at Nisch and of course only when delegates from all the other belligerents arrive. Other questions will be reserved for a conference of Premiers. One of the Servian delegates at Nisch will be the former Servian Minister in Sophia. He will be accompanied by Greek Minister here.

Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs told me to-day that if Greek demands were found to be excessive Servia and Roumania would be able to cause them to be reduced.

He also informed me that Servian Government have learnt from Berlin and Athens that Bulgaria has appealed to Austro-Hungarian Government to support a proposal for autonomous Macedonia.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Bucharest.)

[33821] No. 502.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 357.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 22, 1913.*

TOTAL advance to be made by the Ingeniorat consists of prolongation of concessions of 1,000,000*l.*, of which 300,000*l.* at 20 per *L.*, as stated in my telegram No. 347 of 18th July, is to be paid to-day, 600,000*l.* after issue of the irade in about ten days' time, and the remainder three weeks later.

The first instalment is to be used to pay Arab salaries, but the balance will be available for military expenditure.

[33812] No. 503.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey — Received July 22.)

No. 416. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Berlin, July 22, 1913.*

BALKANS.

The French Ambassador told me last night that the German Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs had sent urgent advice to the Greek Government through the Greek Chargé d'Affaires that the allies should conclude peace with Bulgaria without any reference to or connection with Turkey, and that they should make it quite clear to Europe that they were in no way responsible for Turkish advance.

[33829] No. 504.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 417.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 22, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Your telegram No. 290 of 21st July to Paris.

German Minister for Foreign Affairs read to me very confidentially German Ambassador's report of Ambassadors' meeting and of his previous conversation with you.

Secretary of State entirely approves of proposal to encourage belligerents to make peace immediately, and as he learns that delegates from all five are meeting at Nisch he hopes that negotiations may be successful. He is rather disturbed by rumours that Russian military attaché is to attend meeting.

With regard to Turkey, Secretary of State is anxious that Powers should form definite agreement that Enos-Midia line is to be adhered to, but has no suggestion to make for enforcing decision if Turkey is recalcitrant. He is entirely opposed to naval demonstration, which he considers difficult to carry out very possibly ineffectacious and dangerous in view of possible eventualities.

Russian Chargé d'Affaires had made a purely personal suggestion that Powers should occupy Enos and Midia, but Secretary of State thought that Europe could not occupy Turkish territory, as it would mean declaring war on Turkey. He seemed to fear that Russia might later Armenia under excuse of putting pressure on Turkey. I asked whether he thought it would be possible to give Russia a mandate to make a demonstration at Constantinople or Midia or somewhere in that neighbourhood, under condition that she did not enter Armenia. He was inclined to think that might be possible, but he said he could express no definite opinion or any suggestion until he had learned Austrian views. He said he had himself no objection to anybody making demonstration, but that Germany would not join.

[33827] No. 505

Sir F. Villiers to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 151.)
(Telegraphic.) Vienna, July 22, 1913.

ALBANIA.

Upon a talk with the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of your telegram No. 232 of 21st July, and he told me that he would take your proposal into his most favourable consideration to see if the Powers could possibly accept it. He said that he was most desirous that the statute for Albania should be drawn up with as little delay as possible.

[33828] No. 506

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 117.)
(Confidential.) Vienna, July 21, 1913.

BALKANS.

Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs told me this morning that news received that Roumanian army would not advance on Sofia but that Servian army was pushing forward towards Vidin.

With regard to Adriatic, Minister for Foreign Affairs said that he approved of the decision to which other Powers that the Turks must retire within Enos-Midia line. He told me that he had hoped, now that Greece was putting forward idea of creating autonomous province of Albania in Adriatic, that so far as Austria was concerned official intimation of this Greek Minister here spoke to me favourably of this idea.

Minister for Foreign Affairs expressed himself unfavourably as to the reported news that Servia desired to obtain port on the Ægean east of Cavalla, and he said that territory belonging to Turkey, Bulgaria and Greece might arrange for a *débouché* for Servia on the Ægean Sea on the same lines as the exit to the Adriatic. Minister for Foreign Affairs also spoke to me sympathetically of the idea of an autonomous Mesopotamia, but only economically, that this province should be neutralised and controlled by European Powers.

I enquired of Minister for Foreign Affairs whether he thought Balkan States would accept cessation of peace preliminaries by the European Powers without question. He replied as regards Servia the country which most interested Austria, he thought she would yield as she had done to the pressure of the Powers on the question of Durazzo and Scutari disturbances. Minister for Foreign Affairs seemed to foresee without pleasure possible necessity of naval demonstration to bring Turkey to give up Adrianople.

From conversation I had I gathered that great reluctance will be shown here to bring pressure to bear upon Roumania, that if Powers allow Servia to extend her territory to a frontier beyond Vardar River, Austria may raise difficulties as to bringing pressure to bear on Turkey to evacuate Adrianople.

[32614] No. 507

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 110.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 22, 1913.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a note from the Turkish Ambassador protesting against the alleged compulsory enrolment by the Bulgarian authorities of Turkish prisoners of war, to fight against their Servian and Greek brethren.

If the Ottoman Government have approached the other great Powers on the lines of Tewfik Pasha's note, and if the facts are as stated by His Highness, you are authorised to act in concert with your colleagues, if they are similarly instructed, in making a joint protest on the subject to the Bulgarian Government, whose action would be in contravention with section I of article 6 of the Regulations of the Convention of The Hague respecting the treatment of prisoners of war.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[34277] No. 508

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 112.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 22, 1913.*

THE Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires said to-day that his Government were prepared to send a delegate to meet those of the other Balkan States at any place and once, and I was being strongly urged upon me that there ought to be a cessation of hostilities immediately.

I said that we would do all we could to encourage the Powers to arrange a meeting of Delegates, but the Powers at whatever place was convenient to them, as soon as possible, but it was not in our power to intervene by force to stop hostilities.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[34278] No. 509

Sir Edward Grey to Earl Granville.

(No. 235.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, July 22, 1913.*

THE German Ambassador told me to-day that his Government were in favour of the retention of Kavalla by Greece. He thought that I had not yet expressed myself on this point, as it was also opposed to it.

I said that the only definite opinion I had expressed was that I assumed that Bulgaria must have a port somewhere on the Ægean Sea. I did not know what there was any good port available for her except Kavalla, but, if there was a good port, this fact must be taken into account in considering the situation. Apart from that I had no political interest in the retention of Kavalla by Greece.

The Ambassador said that Dedeagatch was a good port, and this would of course be available. He thought that it would be satisfactory if Greece had Kavalla, but did not extend further east.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[34337] No. 510.

Sir Edward Grey to Earl Granville.

(No. 236.)

My Lord, *Foreign Office, July 22, 1913.*

THE German Ambassador gave me to-day the following memorandum of the German views about reforms in Asiatic Turkey:—

The Imperial Government have welcomed with satisfaction the Russian initiative concerning the Armenian reforms, being convinced that something had necessarily to be done to create settled conditions in this country, which has for many decades been suffering from a state of unrest. This initiative has already had the happy effect of demonstrating to Turkey the necessity of reforms. It is engaging her to elaborate a project of reforms of her own. However, the Russian (Mouravieff) project of reforms gives rise to objections.

The appointment of three Turkish Governors-General, which moreover would not even check the Armenians, would be the first step towards an ultimate and gradual partition of Asiatic Turkey, for it would hardly be within the power of the Governors of Asia Minor, Syria, Arabia, &c., would likewise be contrary to M. Sazonoff's assurances. Taking this into account, and considering that self-determination in matters of constitution, after all, is left to the Government of the country, it seems advisable to examine first the Turkish project of reforms, and to consider, as far as possible, the Imperial Government's proposition that any interference in the Turkish administration should assist or modify reforms to be introduced or to be introduced, of reforms according to a scheme which would have to be framed by the Powers. At present the Imperial Government would only be able to recommend to Turkey to carry out the Turkish project according to the Turkish decree of 1839. The Imperial Government thinks would above all, have to be the creation of a commission of control, composed half of Turks, half of delegates of the Great Powers and being presided over by a Turkish chairman. Such a commission of control which would have the Armenian complaints and desires and to elaborate information and instructions for the administrative functionaries, would, in the same time, give to Turkey the assistance she needs and offer to the Powers the opportunity for a permanent supervision of the way the projected reforms are carried out.

The Imperial Government considers that a Turkish project of reforms, compared in that way, would be more apt to establish the Russian (Mouravieff) project, the force of which after having been suppressed, if possible by the introduction of Christian assistants for the subordinate administrative functionaries provided for by the Turkish decree of 1839.

I said that I would give no answer on the lines that we had expressed in St. Petersburg, which, I thought, had already been made known at Berlin.

I am, &c.

E. GREY.

31876] No. 511.

Sir Edward Grey to M. Cambon.

HIS Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the French Ambassador, and has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of his Excellency's communication of the 2nd instant, relative to the demands of the Greek authorities in Samos for the payment of sums due by the administration of the Ottoman Public Debt to the Government of the Principality.

Sir Edward Grey considers that the method of treating this question proposed by the French Government is entirely applicable to the phase which had been reached at the moment when that method was suggested, but information has now reached His Majesty's Government showing that this phase has now been succeeded by another calling, in his opinion, for more drastic action on the part of the Governments of the guaranteeing Powers, and he has accordingly made a fresh proposal to the French Government through His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris.

Foreign Office, July 22, 1913.

[31876] No. 512.

Sir E. Grey to Mr. Cartwright.

(No. 459.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 22, 1913.*

I HAVE received Sir F. Bertie's despatch No. 369 of the 7th instant forwarding copy of a note from the French Government stating their views on the proposal of the Greek authorities at Samos for the payment of sums due by the Administration of the Ottoman Public Debt to the Government of the Principality.

You should inform the French Minister for Foreign Affairs that the proposal alluded to in the second paragraph of His Excellency's note is the first which the French Government, to His Majesty's and the Russian Government's knowledge, on the 6th May was not in fact made more than two months later, which has been duly forwarded to this Office, and no further instructions on the subject. You will make clear to M. Pichon the reasons why I thought it necessary to write my despatch No. 364 of the 12th to Sir F. Bertie, and which would not be explained to a certain extent by a possession of the views of the French Government now communicated.

I consider that the method of treating this question proposed by the French Government should be the one which should be adopted at the moment when that action was suggested, and the circumstances of the despatch from His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at Constantinople will show that this phase has now been succeeded by another resulting from the conclusion of the Greek Government for the payment of the sums due by the Ottomans.

The situation thus created appears to me to be one in which it is reasonable that the method proposed by the French Government to M. Pichon in the letter which has now reached me, I suggest to the Ambassadors of Great Britain, France, Russia, and Austria-Hungary at Constantinople, should be made a common one, to act against the right to declare a moratorium by Mr. Morgenthau.

If M. Pichon concurs, as I suggest, you will instruct His Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg to ask the assent of the Russian Government.

I am, &c.

E. GREY.

32997] No. 513.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Parker & Johnson.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July 22, 1913.*

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 11th instant, the previous correspondence relative to the Seres Mine concession, which from the Turkish Government's refusal to grant a renewal, has terminated, Secretary Sir E. Grey has directed me to inform you that he has received a despatch from the British Financial Commissioner dealing with this subject.

Sir F. Harvey reports that a copies of the concession, all that he required by the commission. He states that the only point of difficulty which arises in connection with this matter is that although the contract for the concession of the mine was signed in April, 1913, the Imperial Irade granting the concession was only granted on the 5th February last, that is to say, after the territory in which the mine is situated had passed into the occupation of the Bulgarian forces.

The point of Turkish law involved, as to the position of the concessionaires during the period between the signature of the contract and the issue of the Irade, was submitted to a sub-committee of members of the commission with special legal competence, among whom was the Bulgarian delegate, and this body has come to the conclusion, concurred in by the concessions committee, that the contract must be considered as being binding even before the Irade issued the firman being merely declaratory and not constitutive of rights.

In these circumstances, the Bulgarian Government will in the view of the committee which the plenary commission will immediately ratify be substituted to the Ottoman Government in the latter's obligations to the concessionaires in question and will be asked to carry out the necessary formalities for the ratification of the

* No. 213.

contract of April 1912, the firman issued subsequent to the outbreak of hostilities being disregarded.

At Sir P. Harvey's request it was recorded that these formalities should involve no cost to the concessionaires.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[32975.] No. 512.

*Foreign Office to Liverpool Steamship Owners' Association.**

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July 22, 1913.*

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 10th instant, relative to the conditions of navigation in Turkish waters, I am directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to inform you that a telegram from His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople states that navigation may be considered safe at all places on the Turkish coast except the Bosporus, the Straits of the Dardanelles, certain places on the shore of the Sea of Marmara, and the Gulf of Smyrna.

He would think, as regards these places, that the risks have not been removed.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

33892 No. 513.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir E. Grey. — Received July 24.

No. 107. Confidential.

Sir, *Paris, July 21, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of an *aide-mémoire* of this day's date which I have left with the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the publication of the communiqué of the Spezzia conversations during the war between Turkey and the United States.

I have, &c.
FRANCIS BERTIE.

Aide-mémoire.

IN reply to the inquiry of the Ambassador of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom as to the effect which the imposition of extraordinary taxes by Turkey would have upon the revenues pledged to the service of the Ottoman Public Debt, the Minister for Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform His Excellency that the Ottoman Government has decided as follows:—

1. That all such extraordinary taxes, whether already collected or not, including the increase of 5 per cent. on imports ordered by the Imperial Iradé of the 20th June, 1912, and the revenue thereby affected to the needs of the war, cease on the conclusion of peace.

2. The revenues pledged to the service of the Debt, and the charges of the Debt, remain as before the war, and the payments to the Commissaries of the Debt, as formerly, will continue. The fact of the suspension of the guarantee of the Debt.

3. The provisional surtaxes imposed during the war (100 per cent. for the time being) will cease as soon as the Balkan States shall have ceased to pay the indemnities provided for by the Treaty of Peace, and the duties will return to their normal rate of 11 per cent. *ad valorem*.

4. The Commission Ottomane à Scutari will, for the purpose of its functions, dispose of all the receipts which are not pledged to the service of the Ottoman Debt.

Vienna, le 20 juillet 1913.

* Sent to the United Kingdom Mutual Steamship Assurance Association.

[33970.] No. 516.

Telegrams communicated by Count Benckendorff, July 23, 1913.

(1.)

M. de Giers to Count Benckendorff.

Constantinople, le 5 (18) juillet, 1913.

LE doyen du Corps diplomatique vient de nous communiquer sur une demande de la Sublime Porte, la copie d'un telegramme Pizzet Pacha décrivant les atrocités commises sur les Bulgares avant de quitter les villages qu'ils occupaient. Dans mon opinion, cette communication a pour but de preparer un motif plausible de declaration de guerre à la Bulgarie.

(2.)

M. Sazonof to Count Benckendorff.

Saint-Pétersbourg, le 5 (18) juillet, 1913.

Pour le statut de l'Albanie, nous ne croyons pas, par raisons multiples, pouvoir nous départir du terrain de la résolution prise le 29 décembre dernier.

Tout d'abord la restriction qui restreint, selon cette déclaration, à toutes les Puissances sauf l'Autriche-Hongrie et l'Italie, le principe du contrôle permanent avant été accepté par leurs Gouvernements à cause de la souveraineté ou suzeraineté du Sultan, également stipulée, nous ne voyons pas de convénient à ce que le vassalage de l'Albanie avec la Turquie

D'autre part, cependant, nous sommes disposés à tenir compte dans la mesure du possible, des désirs de l'Autriche-Hongrie et de l'Italie, nous ne verrons pas d'objections à consentir à ce que le vassalage de l'Albanie à la Turquie soit exclu.

Nous ne pouvons pourtant pas d'avance accepter en même temps le principe d'un terme trop court à fixer pour le contrôle européen, et ceci pour les raisons suivantes:

Tout d'abord l'Albanie est un *terre inconnue* pour laquelle il n'est guère possible de stipuler d'avance une indépendance complète. Ce que l'Europe sait jusqu'à présent de l'Albanie, c'est que de tout temps elle a été l'arène de troubles et presque toujours d'anarchie. Décider dès à présent que dans cet temps suffira à rétablir cet ordre et la sécurité dans le pays et le doter d'institutions capables de le prémunir contre un retour à l'anarchie serait à nos yeux prendre une responsabilité morale trop grande. L'Albanie abandonnée à son sort deviendrait vite ou bien une source de troubles dangereuse, non seulement au point de vue local, mais à coup sûr de la paix européenne, ou bien nécessairement interviendrait une ou plusieurs des Puissances, le principe de prépondérance d'une ou deux des Puissances ayant été exclu.

Ces considérations ainsi que l'intérêt de ne point revenir sans nécessité aussi sur des principes déjà adoptés, nous font à ne point nous départir du principe du contrôle permanent des Puissances en Albanie.

Il appartiendra à l'organe de ce contrôle après un délai de trois à cinq ans de soulever la question devant les Gouvernements respectifs sur l'opportunité de son abolition. Tel pourrait être à nos yeux le cas, si tous ceux qui pourraient être proposés, c'est-à-dire ceux qui, après expérience faite les Puissances reconnaissent d'un commun accord l'Albanie mûre pour l'indépendance complète, elles pourraient se contenter satisfaites d'avoir mis à bonne fin la tâche qu'elles se sont imposée en prenant en main l'organisation de ce pays.

(Communiqué à Paris.)

3.)

M. Sazonof to Count Benckendorff

Saint Petersbourg, le 5 (18) juillet, 1913.

La nécessité d'établir un accord prompt entre les Puissances sur la question des mesures à prendre pour faire cesser les hostilités et exercer une influence modératrice sur les belligérants se ressent dans toutes les capitales. Nous croyons comme Sir Edward Grey qu'une solidarité de vues est facile à établir. Les circonstances exigent une cohérente action. Veuillez demander à Sir Edward si on trouve possible de saisir la réunion de cette question. Notre point de vue sur la délimitation se trouve exposé dans les télégrammes qui vous ont été communiqués. Il s'accorde avec les deux points réservant, d'après Sir Edward Grey, l'appréciation de la situation par l'Autriche et la Russie, à savoir —

1. Frontière continue entre la Grèce et la Serbie; et
2. Un port bulgare sur la mer Egée de préférence Kavala.

(4.)

M. Sazonof to Count Benckendorff

(Confidentiel.) *Saint-Pétersbourg, le 6 (19) juillet*, 1913.

Nous prions Sir Edward Grey de convoquer d'urgence la réunion et lui poser la question sur l'opportunité de se concerter sur les mesures à prendre pour faire respecter par la Porte la décision prise par les Puissances relativement à la délimitation bulgaro-turque. Vous pouvez lire confidentiellement à Sir Edward Grey que notre flotte dans la mer Noire peut être mobilisée dans un délai très court.

(5.)

M. Sazonof to Count Benckendorff

Saint-Pétersbourg, le 7 (20) juillet, 1913.

Il nous paraît nécessaire d'établir une distinction entre les tâches différentes qui incomberont aux Grandes Puissances après la conclusion de la paix préliminaire entre les belligérants —

1. L'intervention pour la cessation des hostilités et, si la paix se fait, la revision éventuelle des conditions de cette paix préliminaire.
2. La codification de l'ensemble des décisions prises par les Grandes Puissances à la réunion de Londres et à la Commission frontière de Paris.

La revision devrait suivre nécessairement la conclusion de la paix préliminaire tandis que l'élaboration du traité de la paix définitive demandera nécessairement un temps considérable. Il va de soi que si l'accord entre les belligérants se fait sur des bases raisonnables la tâche de la revision sera *ipso facto*, épargnée aux Puissances. Si, au contraire, les prétentions des adversaires de la Bulgarie devenaient exorbitantes, la revision deviendrait imminente.

Comme il était entendu que la conférence pour la liquidation finale de la crise balkanique pourrait se faire à Paris, il nous semble que si le Gouvernement anglais déclinait le choix de Londres, il serait désirable que Sir Edward Grey prît sur lui la tâche de sonder les Gouvernements s'ils acceptaient Paris pour cette conférence. Les Ambassadeurs à Paris pourraient être chargés auparavant de se concerter sur les mesures d'intervention et de revision du traité préliminaire en cas de besoin.

Nous attendons l'avis de Sir Edward Grey.

[33965] No. 517.

Director of Military Operations to Foreign Office.—(Received July 23.)

THE Director of Military Operations presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and in reply to his memorandum of the 21st July and to the question contained in the last paragraph, begs to inform him that the Chief of the Imperial General Staff concurs in Sir F. Elliot's view that it is useless for Lieutenant-Colonel F. Cunliffe Owen to remain at Athens if the purpose for which he was sent there cannot be attained.

2. Brigadier-General Wilson desires to point out that this department has always extended special courtesies to the Greek military authorities whenever opportunity has offered, but as, in spite of this reciprocal treatment as not being extended to the British military attaché, he begs to request that, subject to Sir Edward Grey's approval, instructions may be sent for the recall of Lieutenant-Colonel F. Cunliffe Owen, military attaché at Athens, and that the Greek Government be informed accordingly.

War Office, July 23, 1913.

[33834] No. 518.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 129.)
(Telegraphic.)
BALKANS *Bucharest, July 22, 1913.*

My telegram No. 125 of 22nd July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs explained to me to-day that as result of visit of negotiations for peace preliminaries to take place here, rather than at Nisch as had negotiators would be nearer close contact with Great Powers on whom must depend final ratification of arrangements resulting from negotiations.

Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.

[33844] No. 519.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 131.)
Telegraphic.) R.
BALKANS *Bucharest, July 23, 1913.*

Following from the military attaché for the Director of Military Operations: —

"It is officially reported that there are no Bulgarian troops south-west of the Balkans, and that the Roumanian right flank is in touch with the Servians."

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33855] No. 520.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 132.)
(Telegraphic.)
BALKANS *Bucharest, July 23, 1913.*

Yesterday the Servian Minister informed the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the concurrence of his Government in the procedure indicated in my telegram No. 125 of 22nd July, and said that they would do their best to persuade the Greek Government to agree.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens and Belgrade.)

[33985] No. 521

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

No. 133.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 23, 1913.*
BALKANS.

My immediately preceding telegram of 23rd July.

Greek reply has now been received. Greek Government, though ready to send delegates here for peace negotiations, decline to entertain idea of an armistice until their demands are satisfied.

I understand that Roumanian Government will now propose to Greek Government merely temporary suspension of hostilities pending meeting of peace delegates here, but from all accounts strong pressure will be needed at Athens to secure acceptance of this proposal.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33986] No. 522

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 134.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 23, 1913.*
BALKANS.

I hear from a sure source that King of Roumania has telegraphed to-day to King of Greece and King of Servia and King of Montenegro urging hastening of negotiations as Europe does not wish Bulgaria to be crushed.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[33993] No. 523.

Sir H. Rumbold (Sofia) to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 300.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sofia, July 23, 1913.*
BALKANS.

My immediately preceding telegram of 22nd July.

Greeks have now advanced to Yanovetz, 70 miles south-west of Philippopoli, threatening the latter.

[33987] No. 524.

Sir H. Rumbold (Sofia) to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

No. 310.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sofia, July 23, 1913.*
BALKANS.

Sir F. Elliot's telegram No. 161 of 21st July.

Proposed Greek frontier seems exaggerated, but I have reason to believe that Bulgarian Government would accept it.

Greek Government should, however, be strongly dissuaded from insisting on war indemnity.

It must be considered that, even if Greek and Servian demands are admitted in full, Bulgaria will gain territory larger than Great Britain if Turkey is confined to Enos-Midia line.

(Sent to Bucharest and Athens via Belgrade.)

[33981] No. 525

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 183.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 23, 1913.*
BALKANS.

My immediately preceding telegram of 22nd July.

The Servian Government have now decided that the preliminaries of peace must be settled by conference of Premiers before there is any armistice. In the circumstances there seems little object in the Bulgarian military mission remaining on at Nisch, but the Servian Government do not suggest this, as they do not wish to appear to reject any Bulgarian advances. At the same time, they point out that all hostilities at present are due to Bulgarian attacks, and if Bulgaria really wished to give proof of good intentions she would demobilise. No advantage would be taken of this by the Servian forces.

The assembling of the conference, which is to be at Bucharest, will be hastened as much as possible.

(Sent to Sofia, Athens, and Bucharest.)

[33983] No. 526.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 353.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 23, 1913.*
BALKANS.

Recapture of Adrianople is being made great feature of celebrations of anniversary of constitution to-day. Capture of Kirk Kilisse by Kurdish and Laz irregular cavalry is announced. Intention seems to be conquest of territory up to old Bulgarian frontier at least.

A statement made by the Prime Minister publicly, telegraph agency version of which has been provided, has considerably perturbed Committee.

[33984] No. 527.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 360.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 23, 1913.*

My telegram No. 341 of 17th July.

Talaat Bey has visited Bitlis and about 100 Armenians have been brought here under arrest on charge of 'unbecoming behaviour.' A well-known Moslem anti-Armenian agitator and one of his followers were also arrested.

[33990] No. 528.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 275.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 23, 1913.*
BALKANS.

Minister for Foreign Affairs told me to-day that German Ambassador had just informed him that his Government was opposed to idea of a naval demonstration, and therefore supposed that Germany's two colleagues would adopt the same attitude. German Ambassador at Constantinople was his Excellency had heard, encouraging Turks in the belief that they would be allowed to retain Thrace. To this Russia, for reasons stated in my telegram No. 269 of 21st July, could never assent.

He begged me to make it clear that he meant what he had said. He was going to discuss the question with the President of the Council this afternoon and with the Emperor to-morrow or the next day. Until he had received His Majesty's orders he could say nothing definite. He was personally in favour of naval demonstration and thought that if Russia, France, and England joined one other Power would follow suit.

I asked what he proposed to do were such a demonstration to fail and were those in command at Adrianople to refuse to withdraw.

His Excellency replied that recourse would have to be had to stronger measures, but he could not say in what direction. He referred to possible occupation of Armenia by several army corps, but I begged him not to entertain an idea which would inevitably bring about disruption of Turkish Empire in Asia. He also spoke of financial pressure, and is very displeased with French banks for having placed funds at disposal of Turkish Government at present moment.

I am afraid that if Powers do not decide on some collective pressure Russia will inevitably intervene over the Dardanelles.

[33880] No. 529

Consul-General Smith to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 23.)

(No. 16.)
(Telegraphic.) *Decode.* *Odessa, July 23, 1913.*

My telegram of 16th July.

Following telegram has been received from Sevastopol:—

"Bulgarian squadron has been disarmed."

Similar telegram sent to St. Petersburgh and Constantinople.

[33716] No. 530.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Rose-Bennett.[*]

(No. 153.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 23, 1913.*

BALKANS.

When a suitable opportunity presents itself you should encourage Government to which you are accredited to send delegates to meet those of the other belligerents to arrange for cessation of hostilities and terms of peace.

Any arrangements as to distribution of territory will, of course, have to be ratified by the Powers after examination, but you had better not volunteer this statement until some of your colleagues have similar instructions.

[34279] No. 531

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Carnegie.

(No. 163.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 23, 1913.*

IN speaking to M. Cambon to-day, I touched upon the question of the southern frontier of Albania.

He told me that his instructions were to claim Koritza for Greece, but, if Argyrocastro and Prinetz could be obtained for Greece, then he was to give up Koritza.

I asked him whether this could be done without an understanding about the Ægean islands?

He said that the understanding about the islands going to Greece would still have to remain.

I informed him that the Italian Ambassador now practically withdrew from the offer to give to Greece the islands in Italian occupation, and thought that the question of the islands should be considered in connection with the whole settlement. He had assured me again that Italy would not try to keep any islands herself, and I thought that at least it should be part of any settlement that was made that Italy, if the islands did not go to Greece, should give the islands back to Turkey immediately as part of the settlement.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

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[*] Also to Sir R. Paget (No. 112), Sir G. Barclay (No. 37), Sir F. Elliot (No. 105), and Count de Salis (No. 75).

[34281] No. 532

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Carnegie.

(No. 164.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 23, 1913.*

THE French Ambassador spoke to me to-day with some concern of conversation that he had had privately with the Russian Ambassador, who had told him that Russian feeling was becoming very agitated. If Turkey were to Adrianople, and Greece and Servia went to Sophia, he was afraid that the Russian Government might be compelled to do something alone, unless other Powers were prepared to join in doing something together. But what could be done? The objections to a naval demonstration were obvious. A demonstration on the coast of Asiatic Turkey would only make trouble there, and to send ships into the Dardanelles was a very formidable task.

I said that I had already heard that Germany would not join in a naval demonstration.

M. Cambon asked me whether she would object to one taking place without her.

I replied that I had not gathered that she would, but I thought that, if a demonstration did take place, no Power should be allowed to stand outside of it. In any case, we were not prepared to risk any of our ships amongst mines in the Dardanelles.

M. Cambon said that if Russia entered Armenia, it would be a serious matter.

I agreed that this would agitate Germany.

M. Cambon asked me whether I thought that Russia could be given a mandate to make a demonstration against Turkey?

I answered that it was possible that the Powers would object to her making a demonstration, but I did not think that they would go so far as to give her a mandate.

Finally I said that, at the meeting to-morrow, if as I gathered from the Powers agreed that the Enos-Malia line should be corrected, we should put that on record. But I would state as the view of the British Government that we did not recommend any immediate step. We should regard the Turkish action in Europe and the action of the belligerent States in Macedonia as having thrown everything into confusion since the treaty was signed in London. This confusion and uncertainty would make it necessary for the Powers to review the settlement of Thrace and Macedonia as a whole after the fighting was over. I thought that then Turkey might be induced to leave Adrianople, on conditions. Three reasonable conditions occurred to me:—

1. Just as Bulgaria had endeavoured to stipulate that the Enos-Malia line should be curved south-eastwards, so as to include Bulgarian territory Marath and other places, so the Turks might demand that, after what had occurred, it should be curved north-westwards.

2. The Turks might demand that, when they left Adrianople, it should be dismantled as a fortress, so that it should be no longer to them.

3. The Turks might demand a hard and fast agreement that there should be no indemnity or serious financial obligation placed on them as a result of the war with the Balkan States.

I added that probably the Turks would also wish to bring the Ægean Islands into the transaction, but we need not consider this till it arose.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[34280] No. 533.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 190.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 23, 1913.*

THE Italian Ambassador spoke to me to-day about the southern frontier of Albania.

I informed him that I did not see how the question of Koritza and Stylos could be settled till an agreement was come to about the Ægean islands.

He expressed great disappointment, and said that to delay the settlement would risk action being taken by Austria. As to the islands, he said that he knew that

there was a suspicion that Italy intended to keep some of them but there was no foundation for this. As to the difficulty of giving them back to Turkey instead of handing them to Greece the population of the small islands was such as to be a negligible quantity in this consideration, and at Rhodes there was a very large Mussulman element. Mytilene, Chios and Samos were what Greece really wanted, according to the view of M Venizelos when he was in London last winter

I am, &c.
E GREY

[30856] No. 534

Foreign Office to Board of Trade

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 23, 1913*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to transmit to you herewith, to be laid before the Board of Trade, a copy of a letter from the Commercial Union Assurance Company* urging that the British delegates on the Balkan Financial Commission should uphold the interests of the company by claiming exemption for the insurance laws of the Balkan States for the company, and for their subsidiary company the Union Assurance Society (Limited)

The matter has been submitted to Sir P Harvey, one of the British delegates at Paris, and a copy of his note on the subject is enclosed herewith

While Sir P Harvey is doubtless correct in holding that the position of assurance companies as to which the privileged Powers (Russia, Greece and Servia) have agreed with the Powers of the Public Debt Commission, Sir E Grey is not aware that there are any good grounds for intervening to safeguard as far as possible the interests of the companies concerned, either by means of a stipulation in a general treaty or by separate representation to the Ottoman Government with the view to the Balkan States which have annexed Ottoman territories with a large British insurance connection, should adopt a different position

The object to be attained would be that existing policies should be allowed to run out under existing conditions as far as possible

Sir E Grey would accordingly be glad if the Board of Trade would consult the company's agents and similar companies as to this and inform him in the course of their views as to the most practical means of safeguarding the interests of these enterprises

I am, &c.
W LANGLEY

Note by Sir P Harvey

I am afraid that this is not a matter which the Balkan Commission would consider, as these assurance companies have no concession from the Ottoman Government as I understand the matter.

Nor is there the least chance judging by what has passed in the commission so far, that the company would obtain what it wants. There is, so far, a general agreement that the Balkan States cannot be asked to make exceptions to the common law of their countries for the benefit of foreign enterprises even when these hold concessions from the Ottoman Government. It is most unlikely, therefore, that they would consent to except a foreign insurance company from the common law restrictions which *therefore applying to native companies* will be respected. This company will presumably be no worse off than it was before the question arose.

H P. HARVEY

July 13, 1913

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* Commercial Union Assurance Company, July 4.

[33605] No. 535.

Foreign Office to Admiralty

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 23, 1913.*

WITH reference to the letter from your Department of the 2nd instant, and subsequent correspondence relative to the collection of taxes and the assignment of the revenue derived therefrom at Scutari, I am directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to state that, as the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have doubtless already observed from the copies of telegraphic correspondence forwarded to you from time to time, the Great Powers have now all replied to the request addressed to them by His Majesty's Government for an expression of their views on these points, in consequence of Vice-Admiral Sir Cecil Burney's telegram of the 2nd instant.

I am accordingly to transmit to you herewith draft of a telegram summarising those views, which Sir E. Grey suggests should be despatched to Sir C. Burney for his information and guidance, should their Lordships see no objection

I am, &c.
W LANGLEY

Enclosure 1 in No. 535.

Draft of Telegram from Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir C Burney

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, July , 1913.*

YOUR Nos 14 and 19.

French and Russian Governments agree with His Majesty's Government that settlement of these questions should be left unconditionally to Commission of Admirals.

German, Austro-Hungarian, and Italian Governments consider that all revenues hitherto paid to Commissioners of Ottoman Public Debt should continue to be paid to them

Austro-Hungarian and Italian Governments desire cessation of 10 per cent surtax

Austro-Hungarian Government also observe that, in so far as extra duties on alcohol mean only increase of said duties in accordance with Turkish law of the 20th August, 1912, proceeds of which are assigned to expenses of war, and which does not serve as guarantee of the Debt, this war tax might be abolished

You are authorised to agree to any compromise at which commission may arrive after taking account of the attitude of the various Governments summarised above.

[34043] No. 536.

Sir G Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

No. 69 A.

Sir, *Bucharest, July 10, 1913*

I LEARN that the Roumanian Government to-day have instructed their Minister at Sophia to announce to the Bulgarian Government that the Roumanian troops are about to enter Bulgaria. They have also instructed Prince Ghica to quit Sophia with his staff leaving Roumanian interests in the charge of the Italian Legation. I do not trouble you, Sir, with a copy of Prince Ghica's announcement to the Bulgarian Government, as I understand that its text is to be communicated to the Powers to-day

From some of the London papers which reach me I notice Roumanian mobilisation is unfavourably viewed by our press, and I do not doubt that the announcement now made to Bulgaria, which is tantamount to a declaration of war, will be denounced in scathing terms as many of our newspapers

Unfortunately for Roumania, the victories of the Greek and Servian troops, before she herself has taken the field have stultified the avowed object of her intervention—the prevention of the hegemony of Bulgaria—and her less exalted purpose—the

acquisition of a slice of Bulgarian territory—is thus brought more conspicuously into notice. Nevertheless, I cannot but feel that the intervention of this country in the present conflict has its useful side from the general European point of view. In my despatch No. 95 of the 3rd instant I said: 'It would doubtless have been better in the general interest that Roumania should have remained quiet.' At that time I anticipated that Bulgaria if not interfered with by Roumania, could hold her own against Greece and Servia, in which case there would have been no temptation for Austria to intervene. Events have shown that this anticipation was false. The Servians and Greeks are now victorious all along the line, and Bulgaria has appealed to Russia to get her out of her difficulties. In these circumstances it seems to me that much comfort is to be drawn from Roumania's active policy, for I imagine that Servia's claims would be fraught with greater danger to the general peace of Europe had Roumania remained quiet, and that the risk of Austria's intervention is considerably lessened now that this country, whose friendship Austria so ardently courts, has definitely thrown in her lot with Servia.

I have, &c.
G. BARCLAY.

[34005] No. 537.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 527.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 17, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from the president of the Council of the Administration of the Ottoman Public Debt, reporting on the action of the Provisional Government of Albania with regard to the issue of stamps and the stamp revenue at Durazzo.

Sir Adam Block asks for the intervention of His Majesty's Government in this matter.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 537.

Sir A. Block to Mr. Marling.

M. le Charge d'Affaires, *Constantinople, le 29 juin (12 juillet), 1913.*

J'AI l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que le Gouvernement provisoire de l'Albanie a donné à l'agence de la Dette publique à Durazzo l'ordre de ne plus employer des timbres ottomans en attendant l'impression de timbres albanais, et de verser aux caisses fiscales les recettes provenant du revenu du timbre dans cette région.

En vous signalant cette violation des engagements formels pris sous la garantie de l'Europe envers les porteurs de la Dette publique ottomane et généralement respectés depuis le début de la guerre par tous les pays balkaniques, notre conseil d'administration est persuadé qu'une énergique intervention de votre part ne saurait manquer de ramener le jeune Etat albanais, dont le statut n'est d'ailleurs pas encore établi à la juste compréhension de la sage politique dictée par les Grandes Puissances à l'égard de notre administration.

Je vous remercie par avance des soins que vous voudrez bien donner à cette affaire et vous prie de vouloir bien agréer, &c.

Le Président du Conseil,
ADAM BLOCK.

[34007] No. 538.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—Received July 24.)

(No. 529.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 18, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from the acting British consul-general at Salonica reporting on the military operations of the Greeks, Servians, and Bulgarians as far as they were known up to the 9th instant.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 538.

Acting Consul-General Margetts to Mr. Marling.

(No. 53 [illegible].)

Sir, *Salonica, July 9, 1913.*

MR. W. H. CRAWFORD PRICE, the correspondent of the "Times," has just returned from Doiran, where he had been stationed with His Majesty the King of Greece. While there he had many opportunities for talking over matters with the higher officers. According to them, the Bulgarian losses the day after the battle of Kukush (Kukish began extended from Nigrita in the east to Langhadin in the west, and it was composed of at least eighty battalions and 180 field guns.

Defeated in the battle of Kukush, the Bulgarian retreat towards Doiran, where the Greeks again engaged them, and succeeded very well, even putting them to flight. Evidence of their precipitate flight was seen in the fact that twelve field guns were captured by the Greeks and were found to be loaded, but not fired. In the station of Doiran were found large stores of biscuits and sugar.

Across the lake from Doiran could be seen the smoke of burning villages fired by the Bulgars in their retreat.

Beaten at Doiran, the Bulgarian army divided in part, estimated at 40,000, going northwards towards Strumnitsa town, and a small part making its way eastwards towards Demir Hissar. It is reported that the Greek army has also divided to pursue the two Bulgarian sections.

In the eastern theatre of the war the 7th, 1st, and 5th Greek divisions moved up the west bank of the Struma River, forcing the bridge at Orfano (Orjas) and other bridges destroyed. They are at present working on the building of a bridge across the Struma, and hope shortly to reach Serres. It is thought that the Bulgarian forces on the east bank of the Struma will retreat towards Demir Hissar.

According to trustworthy information from Nigrita, the Bulgarians, before leaving burnt that village, and at least, 170 of the inhabitants, who are Greeks, perished at the hands of the Bulgars or in the fire.

Proofs of the Bulgars hurried flight were also to be seen at Nigrita in uniforms, caps, guns, and equipment lying about everywhere on the line of retreat.

On the west bank of the Vardar the town of Gevgaeli has been the scene of two encounters between Bulgarians and the two allies. Before the outbreak of hostilities the town was guarded by a Servian detachment of 1,000 men, mostly aged about fifty. These were attacked on the morning of Monday, the 30th June, by Bulgarian regulars, and after a combat that took place between the town and the River Vardar, in which the Bulgarians killed some 900 Serbs, they occupied the town. Two days later the Greek 14th Division retook the town, driving the Bulgars in flight across the Vardar. The 10th Division then crossed the river and passed on towards the pass of Furka. After their departure, a battalion of Bulgarians, accompanied by komitajis, who had become detached from the main body after the battle of Kukush, the whole totalling well over 1,000 men, appeared before the town and attacked the small Greek garrison left there. Reinforcements were hurriedly sent up from Salonica, among them being 1,500 marines, and the Bulgars were driven back across the Vardar. The town is now in the hands of the Greeks.

The total number of Greek casualties is estimated at nearly 10,000 killed and wounded. The greater majority of these are wounded. Many of these latter have now been sent to Piræus. The stream of wounded showed signs of slackening yesterday, and very few came in during the night.

In the Serbian theatre of the war the course of events during the past ten days, according to the Serbian vice-consul here, has been as follows —

The Bulgarian army estimated at 120,000 men, lay along a line running from near Strumnitsa to Ishtib, and along the east banks of the Bregalnitsa and Zletovo Rivers towards the old Bulgarian frontier The Serbian forces, estimated at an equal number, leaving small detachments to guard the Salonica-Uskub railway from Gevgheli to Krivolak, lay in force along a line running north from Krivolak about midway between Kuprulu and Ishtib through Ovcaeh Polye towards Kratova

On Monday morning, the 30th June, at 1 A M, the Bulgarian forces at Ishtib, without the slightest warning or provocation attacked in force the Serbian forces lying south west of that town, and succeeded in driving them back with great slaughter to Krivolak which was captured At the same time, the Bulgarians attacked the Serbians lying north-west of Ishtib on the west bank of the Zletovo River After five days fighting the Serbs succeeded in pushing the Bulgars back and capturing Kochana In the meantime they also recaptured Krivolak but at the time of writing the town of Ishtip is still in the hands of the Bulgars, as also part of the Salonica-Uskub railway line from Demir Kapu to a short distance north of Gevgheli

I have &c
JAMES MORGAN

[34009] No 539

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No 63.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 15, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 8th instant I received a telegram in cipher from Vice Admiral Sir Cecil Burney, dated Brindisi the 8th asking me if I would enquire from the Sheikh-ul-Islam if a mufti for Scutari would be appointed from Constantinople, if one should be elected by the Mussulman population in that city

I have replied to Vice-Admiral Burney by means of wireless telegraphy to the effect that it might give rise to future difficulties if I referred this question at the present juncture to the Sheikh-ul-Islam, inasmuch as the matter is rather one for settlement during the exploration of the Albanian statute

I further informed Sir C Burney that the matter was being referred to you

I have &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING

[34056] No. 545.

Sir F Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 163.)
Sir, *Athens, July 16, 1913.*

M TSELOTOKY, the former Prime Minister, who was at the head of the Accession mission which visited Rome, Paris, Berlin, and Bucharest, has allowed his impressions to be published

In Italy he encountered an almost hostile reception. Italian claims remain unchanged, and he saw no sign of a conciliatory disposition in any of the statesmen with whom he conversed

In France he received a sympathetic welcome, but he observed a strong philo-Bulgarian current The general impression at the time of his visit was that the Bulgarian army was by far the strongest in the Balkans, and that Greece had better regulate her attitude by that fact.

In Germany he found a strong pro-Hellenic current testified to by the language of different statesmen.

In Roumania his reception by the King and the Government was particularly cordial, and the general feeling was anti Bulgarian He was convinced that an understanding between Greece Servia, and Roumania would be popular in the latter country, and would be of advantage for the peace of the Balkans.

His general conclusion is that since Germany imposes her will upon Europe, the right policy for Greece is to be upon her side. This was undoubtedly the direction of his own policy when he was last in office.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT

[34034] No 541

Sir R Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 135.)
Sir, *Belgrade, July 17, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of three despatches which I have received from Mr Vice-Consul Peckham

I have, &c
RALPH PAGET

Enclosure 1 in No 541

Vice Consul Peckham to Sir R Paget

(No. 32.)
Sir, *Uskub, July 12, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report the final suppression of the Exarchate here

This cannot come as a surprise to anyone who has followed the tendencies of the Servian Government In a whole series of despatches from my No 4 of the 14th November, 1912, to my No 24 of the 21st April I have noted reporting various forms of Servian activity against Christian Bulgars.

The moment was well chosen the heads of the Bulgar community are now at Mitrovitza (my despatch No 30 of the 30th June) and the Exarchist Metropolitan is now, I believe, in Belgrade I have little doubt that the Servians would exploit the present state of war with Bulgaria as a pretext for suppressing the Exarchist Church Pressure appears to have been brought to bear on the local Exarchist priests to give the matter the air of a voluntary cession rather than a confiscation. The Exarchist churches were taken over on Thursday last the 10th instant, though no formal possession seems to have taken place and to-day the official *Te Deum* for the name-day of King Peter was held in the Church of the Virgin, till lately the Exarchist Metropolitan church.

I have no news of similar action at other places in the province such as Kalkandelen (Tetovo) or Kuprulu (Veles) but have little doubt that the same thing has taken place.

On Thursday last I met one of the few upper class Bulgars left here He appeared utterly crushed by the suppression of his national church This is specially typical of the state of mind of those Bulgars who are left here The news published here of Servian and Greek victories will presumably also have a calming effect on the wilder spirits So far I have seen no signs of a disturbance of public order.

I have &c
W D PECKHAM.

Enclosure 2 in No. 541.

Vice-Consul Peckham to Sir R Paget

(No. 33 Confidential.
Sir *Uskub, July 12, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that yesterday afternoon at about 5 P M I received an invitation from the delegate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to attend the official *Te Deum* to-day in the Church of the Virgin This church, as I have reported in my despatch No. 32 of to-day was till two days ago the Exarchist Metropolitan church

This desire of the Servian authorities to implicate the foreign consuls in a local ecclesiastical quarrel seems to me, to say the least of it, exceedingly tactless, and I should, under ordinary circumstances certainly have asked for instructions from my superior authorities before going The short notice given, and the impossibility of sending cypher telegrams rendered this impossible

Had I merely consulted my personal feelings I should not have gone. It also seems to me that, if The Hague Convention of 1907 is applicable to territory in the somewhat ambiguous position in which the province of Kossovo now is, my presence at a Patriarchist ceremony, conducted in a church just taken from the Exarchist sect, is in some sense a condonation of a violation of that convention. I fear also that it must have given offence to the local Bulgars.

But whatever I did, I was certain to offend one side or the other, and it seemed to me better under the circumstances to offend the Bulgars than to prejudice the friendly relations which I have succeeded in establishing with the Servians, relations which are in some contrast with the acute conflicts of November and January last. I went, therefore. The service was conducted by the Serb Metropolitan, and among those present I noticed General Mishitch, M. Vuchkovitch the acting mufti the Chief Rabbi, the mayor, Reshid Bey the ex-mayor and two or three other Moslems. The Russian and French consuls attended in person the Austrian and Italian were represented by their dragomans.

Given the impossibility of communicating with higher authorities, it seems to me that in a case such as this, uncertainty as the Consular Corps as to the given mode of action seems to me important trait the nature of the action itself. Had my four colleagues agreed not to go, I would not have gone.

Unfortunately, unanimity is practically impossible *pour le crimes, pour sententier*, seems to be the present motto of the Uskub Consular Corps.

As might be expected, the Russian consul-general represents one extreme. M. Tukhkolsky appears always to have been very Serbophile (he was at one time consul at Prisrend), and he pushes comitadjia cult to its uttermost limits. In my despatch No. 1 of the 20th November, 1912, I reported an instance I complained on the part of M. Kalinofsky, the Russian consul-general but M. Tikhkolsky-Kamnikoff's Kamnikoff personality on the news of the fall of Scutari (Croatian flag and admitted that it was a signal for rejoicing for a triumph of the Slav world. My Italian colleague also informs me that M. Tikhkolsky refused his request that a consular meeting should be summoned on the occasion of the arrest of Bulgarian women. For a statement of the Italian consulate (my despatch No. 27 of the 9th June). It was, therefore, a foregone conclusion that he would attend the *Te Deum*.

The other extreme, naturally, is the Austrian consul, M. Heinroth who, in spite of his Germanic name is a Pole) was violently anti-Serb long before the war. I remember a stray phrase he used to me over a year ago, "Ces Slaves gens qui ont assassiné leur Roi." He himself once told me that his reports were so violently anti-Serb that he had received private letters from his Ministry implering him not to create another Prochaska incident.

M. Galanti, the Italian consul, is also anti-Serb. I have already reported (my despatch No. 42 of 29th November, 1912, that he met with considerable unpleasantness on his journey here. It appears that M. Tsernovich, the Prefect, in whom in the absence of other information, he called on arrival, was somew at rude to him and failed to return his call. He also accuses the Servians of ingratitude. By his own account he did much to protect the local Serbs when consul at Prisrend, but this the Servians in their moment of good fortune have forgotten. M. Galanti appears to treat the whole question as a personal matter and admitted that he was glad that he was not in touch with his superior authorities, as he felt sure that they would order him to attend the *Te Deum*.

M. Carbon the French consul-general, myself follow approximately the same line of action, that of avoiding as far as possible on the one hand any unpleasantness with the Servian authorities and on the other any appearance of partisanship, though even we are not quite at one. For instance in this question he appeared to have no difficulty in making up his mind to follow the example of the doyen, while it was only after some hesitation that I decided to go.

There was no official reception, but it was correct to leave cards on the Verhovna Komanda, which the whole Consular Corps did in person. The sole objection which the two abstaining consuls had to attending the *Te Deum* arose from the ecclesiastical question, and I have no doubt that if the Servian authorities had had the tact to hold their service in the Church of St. Saviour, the Patriarchist Metropolitan Church, the the whole incident might have been avoided.

I have, &c.
W. D. PECKHAM.

Enclosure 3 in No. 541

Vice-Consul Peckham to Sir R. Paget

(No. 34.)

Sir, *Uskub, July 14, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that I have been requested by the Servian authorities to examine, as an independent witness certain Servian wounded in the military hospital here, said to have been mutilated by the Bulgarians.

Reflecting on the probability of questions being asked in the House on the subject, and considering that my neutrality would be in no way compromised by accepting, I visited the hospital to-day.

Two cases were shown me —

1. This man was, I was informed, a sergeant of the 8th regiment, second battalion. He was captured by Bulgarian regulars while foraging for food in a village near Kumanovo. His ears were cut and it was said to have been cut off in order to get out his eyes. He appears to have appealed for mercy to the Bulgarians who commanded their words were not known and he said, during the siege of Adrianople, was consequently spared further mutilation. This fact is, however, stoutly denied by the military doctors. His bandages were removed and I was shown one. About a quarter of the upper and outer part of each ear had been cut off, apparently with some sharp instrument, the edges of which were jagged. There was no extraordinary, but I cannot think that this appearance could be brought about by any intentional mutilation was the object to which surgical skill had been applied.

2. This man belonged to the 5th regiment, first battalion. He was wounded and taken prisoner by the Bulgarians in hospital he was evidently severely wounded several times and with the remark that we would keep him out of his lower jaw was cut open with a knife, also by the doctors. The dressing was taken off his jaw which had been cut right through. This wound had not been produced, I may opinion, by the sharp edge of a sword, as fight battles are probably deliberate cut after. The upper lip being quite cut but must have been made when the mouth was open. Besides this wound I saw two wounds dressed on the chest, and his fingers were bandaged below the knee. These dressings were not removed, nor could they been, do I consider that I could have come to any conclusion as to the precautions under which the wounds had been given.

I cannot, of course, state positively who produced these wounds but consider it incredible that the Servians should have deliberately wounded their own men, both men were of the Servian type, moreover discredit the Bulgarians. I am therefore of opinion that the outrages were perpetrated by the enemy. I have carefully considered whether they were the work of regulars or of comitadjis, and was inclined that they were done by the former. It appears that when the Bulgarians were forced to abandon their field hospitals on their retreat they proposed to massacre the wounded on the principle that dead men tell no tales.

I have photographed both men, and will forward copies if required.

I was informed that there were other cases in hospital of men who had been wounded when prisoners or in Bulgarian field hospitals, but had no wish to see cases where I could come to no independent conclusions. I also hear that there are similar cases of mutilation in the hospitals at Kyoprüli (Veles) and Belgrade.

I need hardly point out that with such stories in circulation, a Serbo-Bulgarian rapprochement after the war will be very difficult.

I have, &c.
W. D. PECKHAM.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have talked to my Russian and French colleagues. The former has also visited the hospital and seen and talked to the wounded men in question. As he speaks Servian he was able to interrogate the men direct. His account differs from that which I have received in two particulars. I understood that, in the first case the man was taken prisoner in a chance encounter in a village, according to his account it was during a battle. In the second case he states that he learned that the jaw was cut by two bullet wounds which is also the account given to the French consul, whereas I was positively told that it was done with a knife. The wound

appeared to me to have been made with cold steel, but I can claim to no technical knowledge on the subject. The discrepancy in the first case seems to me to be of no moment. A peasant's vocabulary would not be likely to have more than one word for anything between an affray of five men and the battle of Monastir. The second is a material discrepancy.

W. D. P.

[34035] No. 542.

Sir I. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 156.)

Sir, *Belgrade, July 18, 1913.*

AS the result of an appeal by Bulgaria for the mediation of the Russian Government, M. de Hartwig, on the 11th instant, made a representation to the Servian Government urging them to agree to an immediate cessation of hostilities, the conclusion of an armistice, and to a meeting of the Balkan States in conference at St. Petersburgh to arrange the terms of peace.

M. Pasitch replied that while the Servian Government were themselves desirous that the hostilities should cease, an armistice could only be concluded upon certain conditions to which Bulgaria must agree, as, without the prior outlining of some of the terms, Servia and Greece would have no guarantee for the subsequent attitude of Bulgaria, and a peace conference at St. Petersburgh would prove abortive as was the case with the Peace Conference at London last winter. Under the circumstances Bulgaria should be charged to send an emissary with full powers to negotiate the preliminaries with the Servian and Greek Governments.

With regard to conditions, the Prime Minister told M. de Hartwig in the first instance that Servia had no desire to annihilate or dismember Bulgaria, and he would therefore have no territorial demands concerning territory which they claim up to the right bank of the Vardar. As to this modest resolve M. Pasitch has apparently, in the face of agitation by the military party, which wish to expel Bulgaria entirely from Macedonia, been unable to adhere, and his Excellency told me a few days ago that the present operations had shown the great difficulty of defending Uskub with the Vardar as a frontier, and it would therefore be necessary to push the frontier further east.

Whilst M. Pasitch appreciates the disadvantage of being reasonable the same as in the case with all his colleagues at the Council and with the army, but although for the present he seems able to hold the extremists in check it is doubtful whether he will be able to restrain them if Bulgaria still delays approaching the Servian Government with a view to peace.

A meeting took place between M. Pasitch and M. Venizelos at Uskub two days ago, but so far the only information published concerning the result is that both Premiers were in certain accord in all questions. Before proceeding to Uskub M. Pasitch assured M. de Hartwig he would endeavour to exercise a moderating influence on the Greek claims, and as Greece was wholly entirely dependent on Servia at the present moment he hoped to be successful.

I have, &c.

RALPH PAGET.

[34015] No. 543.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 637.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 18, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the original of the enclosed document was brought to this embassy yesterday by a deputation of ecclesiastics from the Œcumenical Patriarchate. On being asked if they could quote any specific instances of the atrocities complained of, they stated that the following acts had been perpetrated by Bulgarians:—

Nigrita. 500 houses destroyed.
Demir Hissar. Metropolitan and 100 notables massacred.
Doiran. Thirty notables and priests killed.

Serres. 500 houses, with churches and schools, burned.
Doscato. Completely destroyed, with churches, schools, &c.
Cavalla. The bishop and more than 100 notables were carried away by the Bulgarians, and their present fate is unknown.

The deputation stated that altogether two metropolitans had been massacred.

So far as Serres is concerned there would seem, to judge from Mr. Acting Consul-General Morgan's report, enclosed in my No. 629 of the 18th, to be no exaggeration in the statements of the deputation from the Patriarch.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 543.

Note verbale.

C'EST avec le plus profond le douleur que le Patriarcat œcumenique a l'honneur de porter a la connaissance de son Excellence l'état lamentable et désolant auquel a été reduite la population orthodoxe qui se trouve sous son autorité spirituelle en Macedoine.

Sans revenir sur les malheurs qui nous frappent la guerre inter-balkanique apportation pacifique et désarmée de la part des contingents bulgares, et les sur l'armée bulgare le Patriarcat œcumenique vient porter à la connaissance de son Excellence les evenements douloureux survenus après la déclaration de la nouvelle guerre entre les alliés, tels que pillages, destruction complète par le feu et le fer des villages et villes entières, l'assassinat et le viol des femmes, des enfants, et des vieillards, l'extermination pure et simple de tous les notables orthodoxes, comme on dirait l'histoire n'a jamais jusqu'à présent eu l'exemple—la mort tragique du Métropolite de Melé qui a succombé martyrisé sous les tortures bulgares, avec les prêtres et les notables de son diocèse, et le lèvement de plusieurs autres métropolitains, avec les notables de leurs diocèses respectifs, dont le sort est jusqu'à présent inconnu.

Le Patriarcat œcumenique, en protestant par-devant l'Europe civilisée contre lesdites monstruosités bulgares, et en ajoutant avec raison que le tiers ne se reserve aux habitants orthodoxes de Thrace qui se trouvent encore sous la domination bulgare, fait appel aux sentiments humanitaires de son Excellence, et la prie de vouloir bien porter à la connaissance du haut Gouvernement, dignement présidé par elle ce qui précède et le lui recommander de faire prendre les mesures nécessaires pour la sauvegarde et la garantie de la vie, de l'honneur et des biens de plusieurs milliers d'enfants spirituels du Patriarcat œcumenique soumis encore sous la tyrannique domination qui évoque à passé des temps son brès et tyrannique.

Patriarcat œcumenique, le 3 (16) juillet, 1913.

[34016] No. 544.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 638.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 18, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from the British acting consul-general at Salonica, reporting on the action of the Bulgarians at Serres in the few days up to the 15th instant.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 544.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Mr. Marling.

(No. 68. Confidential.)

Sir, *Salonica, July 15, 1913.*

THE following is an account of the events that have happened at Serres during the past few days, based on the report of a foreigner who has been living for some time in that town and who is absolutely trustworthy:—

The Bulgarians, civil and military, at Serres began to slip away from that town on the night of Thursday the 3rd July. More left on the night of Friday, the 4th July, and Saturday the 5th July, so that on Sunday morning, the 6th July, the town was practically unoccupied by the Bulgarians.

While in possession of the town they had as in Cavala and other towns under their rule, wrung as much money as they could out of the population by the imposition of such taxes as commercial registration tax, patent tax, road tax, signboard tax, &c., most likes miserable were invented to obtain the more money thereby.

General Ivanoff arrived at Serres, 16 miles from the town, by train to Demir-Hissar on the night of the 4th July, having gone with General Volkoff Governor-General of Macedonia, to whom an example. Five Bulgarians, a town only stayed long enough after this to massacre seventeen of the Greek notables of the town whom they had imprisoned at the beginning of hostilities. Among these were Stavrakis, director of the Banque Ionienne, Papastavrou, Director of the Greek School, &c.

Others were bitten with a view to extorting money from them. An employé of my informant, who does not wish his name to be given, was beaten with the butt end of a gun till parts of his body became black. The Bulgarians wished him to give them 10*l.*, and he protesting his inability to raise this sum. He was then laid on the ground, stripped and a bayonet was twice pushed through his body, and he was left to die. After the departure of the Bulgarians he was found by friends and carried into hospital.

On Saturday the 5th July, the town was almost deserted by Bulgarians, but the people did not venture to emerge from their houses.

On Sunday, the 6th July, my informant ventured out, and passing into the deserted Government offices, found fourteen persons lying dead there with their throats cut.

Before leaving the town the Bulgarians ordered one Hafiz Effendi, a Turk, to collect for the Bulgarians specified sum so that they might leave the town. The Turk, however, failed to carry out their request.

From Sunday, the 6th July, to Friday, the 11th July, Bulgarians from the hills near the town and from the plain in front of it fired at different intervals into the town, one of the first houses to be fired on being that of an American living on the outskirts of the town, and whose flag was soon torn to several shreds.

Some of the inhabitants, having formed an arab in the town, organised a small local militia to reply to the Bulgarians fire. On Tuesday the 8th July, the Bulgarians attempted an attack on the town, but, meeting with resistance from the local militia, abandoned the attempt.

Day and night the townspeople of Serres went in fear of an irruption of the Bulgarians into the town and a general massacre. At all hours firing could be heard from outside the town, and the bullets of the Bulgarians would whistle through the streets.

In the meantime the Greek forces beyond the Struma River were working hard to bridge at Orlanli the bridge that had been destroyed by the Bulgarians in their retreat. Moreover, Demir Hissar, where the bulk of the Bulgarians were supposed to be concentrating, being their objective, they had neglected to occupy Serres, being content to know that it had been evacuated by Bulgarian troops.

On Friday morning, the 11th July, the Bulgarians brought up four mountain guns on the hills behind the town and commenced to bombard it. The inhabitants by thousands fled from the town towards the plain, the Bulgarians dropping shells among them as they ran.

The majority made their way to the Struma, a distance of two hours, where they found the Greek bridge almost completed. On hearing their story and the sound of the cannonade, a Greek battery crossed the river, and galloping towards Serres, got into position, and within a few minutes the Bulgarians had fled.

In the meantime, however, the Bulgars had entered the town, and, pouring out petroleum here and there, had fired it in various parts. The fire, aided by a strong

wind, soon became general. Some fifty people were bayoneted by them, and shops and houses were broken into and pillaged. Coming to the house of the honorary Italian vice-consul, a native of Serres they were only induced to spare it by the offer of money from the consul and those who had taken refuge in the consulate.

A number of Bulgarians then made their way to the Austrian vice-consulate, and, despite the protests of M. Zlatko, honorary Austrian vice-consul, carried away forty persons who had fled to the consulate for protection off into the mountains. There they separated the men from the women and were leading them off when the women, throwing themselves on their knees, offered their money and jewels to save their lives. Finally, Captain Karaguesof, the leader of the Bulgarians, an officer of the regular army, let himself be persuaded and the party turned back towards Serres. On the way they were met by another band of Bulgarians, who took from the captives everything of value they had left. On arrival at Serres the Austrian consulate was found to be burned.

The Austrian and Italian consuls-general in Salonica left for Serres on the 14th July to carry out an investigation.

The Bulgarians who took part in the above events were officers and soldiers of the regular army. Among them were some irregulars, but these latter have already been enrolled in the regular army, and the Bulgarian Government has assumed responsibility for their acts.

Half of Serres is burnt, but the Jewish and Moslem quarters have not suffered so severely as the others. Many wretched creatures, fugitives from the villages round about, have been completely destroyed, and I hope to be able to send, by my next despatch, a consular list of persons killed.

Yesterday evening the Italian, Austrian, and German consuls-general met in Salonica to protest against the atrocities committed by the Bulgarians, and I hope we may be able to prevent the destruction of Bulgarian power which was originally established on sentiments of civilisation and humanity in the Balkans.

I have, &c.

JAMES MORGAN.

[34025.] No. 547.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 267.)

Sir, *Berlin, July 23, 1913.*

THE German newspapers of the last few days have made rather curious reading in their references to the Balkan troubles. In general terms they have condemned the Turks for advancing beyond the Enos-Midia line, and have declared it necessary for the honour of the Powers to be respected that there has been a counter-move, now Adrianople, north of which Turkish troops are worth nothing or are of very little account, has accumulated in close quarters and been awarded unpressed but German public opinion is beginning to be stirred by the pro-Turkish sympathies, and it is very possible that the idea is beginning to spread that Germany may again be able to pose as Turkey's only friend. In almost every article one finds some sort of indication that the Treaty of London is looked upon more or less as waste paper, that a new boundary from settlement will have to be made or at least, not fixed by the Powers, and that in such new settlement Turkey may be able to make good her case for an "improvement" in a westerly direction of the Enos-Midia frontier. The "Berliner Tageblatt" this morning goes so far as to publish a telegram from its Constantinople correspondent, declaring that Greece and Servia are rumoured to have already agreed to Turkey having the line of the Maritza and Adrianople, and that the Greek delegate at Constantinople has declared openly that they prefer Turkey as a neighbour and as the possessor of Adrianople to Bulgaria.

I hesitate to suggest that the Imperial Government themselves are affected by similar ideas, but I was much struck by two remarks which fell from Herr von Jagow in the course of the conversation which I had with him yesterday, and which I had the honour to report in my telegram No. 117. The first was his declaration that he had no objection to any other Power, or all of them, making a naval demonstration, but that Germany would not join. It is fairly obvious what Germany's attitude would be in the future at Constantinople if she alone of the Great Powers had refused to join in active pressure of this sort. Then he remarked that it was only natural and really rather justifiable that Turkey should desire to extend her frontier to the line of the Maritza,

that the Enos-Midia line was, he was told, a very bad frontier, and that the Maritza line was, after all, the one originally fixed by the Powers, who had, he thought, shown rather deplorable weakness in giving in to Russia and agreeing to Bulgaria's demands for the Enos-Midia line. I asked if he meant that he would be prepared to allow Turkey now to keep the Maritza line, and said that surely, even if the Powers had been wrong in not holding to that line, it would be very humiliating and a great loss of prestige for them to allow Turkey to snap her fingers at them and change the settlement which they had endorsed. Herr von Jagow hastily agreed, said he had not meant that at all, and declared that he was absolutely "European" and that he held firmly to the principle that the decision of the Powers must be respected.

With regard to the "Tageblatt's" telegram quoted above on the alleged Greek flirtation with Turkey, the Greek Chargé d'Affaires has assured me over and over again that Greece has never encouraged Turkey to advance, and is in no way responsible for her action, and Herr von Jagow told me yesterday that he believed the Greek protestations to be true.

I have, &c.
GRANVILLE.

[34174] No. 546

Eastern Telegraph Company to Foreign Office.—(Received July 24.)

Electric House, Finsbury Pavement, London,
July 23, 1913.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to refer to your letter of the 1st instant, relative to contracts or concessions alleged to exist, subject to the Ottoman Government in respect of enterprises connected with the communications decided by Turkey to the Balkan States, and to send herewith twelve copies of each of certain concessions granted by Turkey and Greece for telegraphic cables landing in those countries.*

I beg now to bring your attention to the contract for a original concession for the Constantinople-Tenedos Submarine Cables, dated 2nd March (23rd April), 1878, was originally granted with the Ottoman Government by arrangement with the British Government (*vide* letter from the Ottoman Telegraph Administration, 22nd June, 1878), and 12 was granted concession herewith.

I have also to point out that under the concession granted by the Ottoman Government, dated 4th May, 1884 (18 Redjeb, 1301), the arrangement with Her Britannic Majesty's Government for this company to take over and work the cables between Chios, Tenedos and Besika Bay was confirmed, and further rights granted for laying other cables. By an agreement for Cyprus Telegraphs, dated 4th April, 1910, between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and this company, the above arrangements are recited, and it is provided, inter alia, that this company shall maintain and work the Crete-Syra-Chios-Tenedos-Constantinople cables.

This company has always dealt direct with the people for collecting and delivering telegrams in Chios and Tenedos, but since the Greek Government occupied those islands, they have insisted upon the company handing over the telegraph service to the Government officials, restricting the company's operations to the actual working of the cables.

The Greek Government have also notified this company that they consider that all privileges granted to this company by the Ottoman Government have ceased at the places occupied by Greece. (For attached letter from the General Director of the Greek Posts and Telegraphs, Athens, 15th/28th December, 1912.)

The local manager of this company in the Levant, M. James Anderson, who acted as the British consular agent for the islands in the Greek Archipelago during his residence at Syra, has already consulted the British Minister at Athens with regard to the above matter, and I ought to ask that His Majesty's Government give directions to the British delegates to the Balkan Financial Commission in support of the validity of the concessions granted to this company by the Ottoman Government.

I am, &c.
J. DENISON PINDER,
Vice-Chairman and Managing Director.

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* Not printed.

Enclosure 1 in No. 546.

Direction of Posts and Telegraphs (Athens) to Direction of the Eastern Telegraph Company (Athens).

(Translation.)

Athens, December 15 (28), 1912.

The Chios representative of the Government reports to the Foreign Office that the clerks of your offices there refused to hand over to the director of the telegraph office appointed by the Greek Government, the collection of the telegraphic tariffs, on the pretence that the company has the right by privilege to keep the counter of the Chios telegraph office.

We beg you to be good enough to take into consideration that the places occupied by Greece are no longer Turkish, and consequently the force of all privileges the company had during the Turkish possession has stopped.

In conformity with our convention with the company, the regulations of which are naturally extended over the occupied places in which your company has accidentally been performing telegraphic service, its offices are only to be employed with the exchange of the telegraphic correspondence, and all the other service, and consequently the collection of tariffs and the dealing with the counter are to be dealt with by the Government employés.

We therefore beg you to be good enough to give the necessary instructions to your staff at Chios.

Please accept the assurance, &c.

C. N. MARINOS, *General Director.*

Enclosure 2 in No. 546.

Concessions for Foreign Office.

Turkey.

November 28 (*December* 9), 1870 (14 *Redjeb*, 1287).

Concession for Crete-Rhodes and Chios-Tchesme cables, and for cable to Egypt (*viâ* Chios-Syra-Candia).

December 5 (17) *December*, 1873 (20 *Cheval*, 1290).

Convention for Crete-Italy and Crete-Egypt cables.

March 22 (*April* 3), 1878.

Original convention for Constantinople-Besika-Tenedos-Lemnos-Salonica cables, Tenedos-Chios cable and Crete-Syra cable.

May 14, 1884 (18 *Redjeb*, 1301).

Firman sanctioning Constantinople-Besika-Tenedos-Lemnos-Salonica cables, Tenedos-Chios cable and Crete-Chios cable.

October 23, 1888 (17 *Sefer*, 1306).

Duplicate Chios-Tchesmé cables.

August 3 (15), 1889; *November* 4, 1889 (10 *Rebi-ul-evvel*, 1307).

Duplicate Candia-Canea cable.
Firman for duplicate Candia-Canea cable.

October 11, 1893.

Cretan transit.

Great Britain.

April 4, 1910.

Cyprus telegraphs.
Chios Tenedos cable.

Greece.

December 1 (13), 1872.

Concession to Levant Submarine Telegraph Company for Syra-Chios cable, and for interior and exterior cables.

April 10 (22), 1878.

Convention for Zante and Attica cables.

June 20, 1878.

Assignment of concessions by Levant Company to Eastern Company.

November 15 (28), 1883. *February* 20 *and* 26, 1884.

Convention for laying and leasing Greek lines, with subsidy, Royal decree.

December 10 (22) 1884, *December* 31, 1884, *January* 12, 1885, *July* 26 (*August* 7), 1885.

Additional cables and extension of terms of original convention, Royal sanction with corrections.

November 1 (14) 1900.

Exclusive right to multiply cables.

[34065] No. 547.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 112.)
(Telegraphic.) *Cettinje, July* 23, 1913.
BALKANS.

The King has asked me confidentially (and not for the first time) whether there is any prospect at an early date that the suggested financial assistance would be granted. He understands that you are not unfavourable, but that Austria put a veto on proposals after interfering to stop his negotiations for small loans in Paris and London.

He complained of the way in which Austria was treating him, representing him as an element of disorder and a menace to European peace. They had 30,000 men on his frontier while there were not twenty on his side. He had not mobilised a man except those sent to aid Servia, while he had withdrawn completely from Albania. He was doing his best to live at peace with Austria, but it was almost impossible to get on with their present representative.

I believe that Servia is paying all expenses of troops in the field, but there are great difficulties here for want of money. The treasury is quite empty, and any assistance would be doubly welcome if given soon.

The Russian Minister is away, and I do not know the attitude of his Government in this question.

[33998] No. 548.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 113.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July* 23, 1913.
BALKANS.

Austrian Charge d'Affaires has communicated to Montenegrin Government a note to the following effect:—

Bulgarian Government have informed Austrian Government that it has been arranged that preliminaries of peace are to be treated at Sinaia. As these negotiations will take time it is desirable that meanwhile hostilities should be suspended. Bulgarian Government invoke aid of Austrian Government in order that hostilities may be suspended until termination of negotiations. They are prepared not only to [? cease hostilities], but also to demobilise without delay. Austrian Government recommend acceptance of this proposal, reserving to themselves right to examine and approve preliminaries of peace to be concluded at Sinaia.

[33994] No. 549.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 311.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 23, 1913.
BALKANS.

Rumour of Austrian manœuvres is causing excitement here. Is there any confirmation?

(Sent to Vienna.)

[33995] No. 550.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 312.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 23, 1913.
BALKANS.

Thousands of refugees from country are destitute and starving here, and many more are coming.

All hospital accommodation is full, and thousands of sick and wounded are without shelter. Medical aid is quite inadequate. Cholera has appeared. Order is preserved.

[33996] No. 551.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 313.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July* 23, 1913.
BALKANS.

My telegram No. 302 of 20th July.

M. Gueshof has informed Bulgarian Government that he cannot proceed to London.

[33997] No. 552.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 314.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July* 23, 1913.
BALKANS.

My telegram No. 290 of 17th July.

On 21st and 22nd July Bulgars has attacked Servians near Pirot. There was also severe fighting near Egri Palanka, in which Bulgarians were successful.

(Sent to Constantinople, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[33988] No. 553.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 23.)

(No. 315.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 23, 1913.
BALKANS.

Minister for Foreign Affairs has read me telegram just sent by him to Prime Minister.

I made no observation on its contents.

[34235] No. 554

Sir H Bax Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 316.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My telegram No. 298 of 19th July

King of Bulgarians sent for representatives of all the Great Powers late last night, and read to us document to the effect that he wished to protest to Europe against action of Ottoman army which, not content with violating Treaty of London, was now invading Bulgaria proper, in direction of Trnovo, Isea, and Yamboli, burning villages, massacring inhabitants, and spreading panic. His Majesty, the document continued, could not believe that the Great Powers, who had set their names to a diplomatic instrument which was now being totally disregarded, could remain indifferent to deeds which are being perpetrated or insensible to injuries being suffered.

In distress in which Bulgaria finds itself His Majesty appealed in the name of Bulgarian nationality to the representatives of civilisation, and begged those present to use their utmost endeavours to put an end to sufferings of population now fleeing before their ancient oppressors.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, Bucharest.)

[34238] No. 555.

Sir H Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 317. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My immediately preceding telegram of 24th July.

At meeting last night King of Bulgarians bore himself with much dignity, but he evidently feels situation acutely. After reading his statement he spoke to each of us separately, and to me he said that as treaty had been signed in London it specially behoved England to take necessary steps.

Turkish advance was preceded by hordes of Kurdish cavalry, who were committing every possible horror and destroying all before them. Peaceful population was fleeing in thousands to Philippopolis, which is also menaced from the south-west by Greeks. No opposition whatever could be put to Turks as Bulgaria was at war with Greece and Servia and was already invaded by Roumanians.

Immediate action at Constantinople was urgent. King of Bulgarians asked me to telegraph to the King personally, and to appeal to you to take urgent steps to stop Turkish troops. Bulgarian Government made the same appeal by note yesterday.

My colleagues are all telegraphing to their Governments in this sense.

Turkish officers have been confined to quarters for fear of incidents.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[34343] No. 556

Sir H Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 318.)
(Telegraphic.) *Decode.* *Sophia, July 24, 1913.*

FOLLOWING received from consular agent at Bourgas:—

"Twenty-five thousand Turks, infantry, cavalry, and bashi bazouks, advancing on Jamboli, massacring and devastating

[34237] No. 557

Sir H Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 319.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My telegram No. 314 of 23rd July.

It is announced that attack by Greek, Servian, and Montenegrin troops near Egri Palanka yesterday was repulsed after severe fighting and some Montenegrin guns captured; also that Greek column advancing between Strouma and Bregalnitsa valleys was repulsed with heavy loss. Roumanian troops are now within 8 kilom. of Sophia. They are meeting with no opposition.

(Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[34225] No. 558

Sir L. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 21.)

(No. 184.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Your telegram No. 205 of 3rd July.

To-day at the instance of the Admiral at Semlin, I again urged the Servian Government to withdraw their troops from Orsolubic.

They have replied that Orsolubic is a strategical point, and they must for the present retain their troops there as a precaution against the formation of bands which might operate against them. As soon as peace is cleared and the country is in a more normal condition the troops will be withdrawn.

(Repeated to the Admiral.)

[34234] No. 559

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 185.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Bucharest telegram No. 134 of 23rd July.

I learn that Servian Government have replied, with reference to King of Roumania's telegram that whilst they have every desire to hasten negotiations, their previous experience with Bulgaria will not permit them to agree to an armistice until peace preliminaries have been arranged.

(Sent to Athens, Bucharest, and Sophia.)

[34217] No. 560.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 118.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Vienna, July 21, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 110 of 22nd July.

I have just received confidential *aide-mémoire* from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in the following sense:—

The Austro-Hungarian Government are equally anxious to reach agreement about the organisation of Albania, but wish to point out the fact of formation of provisional national authorities in Albania as well as the ascendency gained by Powers who have shown themselves favourable to the national idea are the natural consequences of contrary tendencies of certain other Cabinets, to which tendencies is also due the prolongation of provisional government in Albania.

The Austro-Hungarian Government must further observe that the attitude of Admiral Burney has given rise to the suspicion that the evacuation of Scutari by Montenegro is due more to the initiative of Great Britain than to international action.

Putting aside these general considerations, the Vienna Cabinet, while wishing to find formula acceptable to the other Powers, cannot assent to proposals which would give the commission of control governmental powers or tend to eliminate the existing national authorities, who have after all ensured order in the regions evacuated by the Balkan troops.

The Austro-Hungarian Government therefore suggest the following counter-proposal for the text of paragraph 7 :—

"Le Prince sera nommé dans un délai de six mois au plus tard. En attendant sa désignation et la formation du Gouvernement national definitif, le fonctionnement des autorités nationales provisoires, ainsi que de la gendarmerie, formera l'objet du controle de la Commission internationale."

The Austro-Hungarian Government hope that the above formula will be generally accepted, and they would be ready to maintain their assent to the prolongation of the commission from five to ten years provided complete agreement can be reached on all other points in the terms of the Austro-Italian draft.

(Copy by post.)

[34238] No. 561

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 119.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Sophia telegram No. 314 of 23rd July.

Following from military attaché:—

"Nothing here to indicate mobilisation; on the contrary, there are indications that a return to normal establishments in Bosnia Herzegovina will shortly take place. Chief of General Staff is away on leave. In South-Eastern Hungary there have been minor movements of troops due to political disturbances, but no increase of establishment."

(Sent to Sophia.)

[34220] No. 562.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 135.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Your circular telegram No. 153 of 23rd July to Sophia.

The Greek Government need no encouragement to make peace. Their delegates left for Nisch 22nd July, and will be instructed to proceed to Bucharest as soon as definite invitation is received.

They do not wish to crush Bulgaria, but experience has taught them the danger of granting armistice except on terms so severe that they would not be accepted without discussion; they would therefore prefer to begin negotiations for peace at once, which will take no longer.

The King of Greece has answered the King of Roumania's telegram in the above sense.

(Sent to Sophia, Bucharest, and Belgrade.)

[34222] No. 563.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 24.)

(No. 136.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My telegram No. 132 of 21st July.

Negotiations with Turkey likely to be delayed by reports of massacres of Greeks during advance of Turkish troops; moreover the Greek Government are not disposed to acquiesce in retention of Adrianople by Turkey.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

[34223] No. 564.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.— Received July 24.

(No. 137.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My telegram No. 131 of 21st July. Greek terms of peace.

(Confidential.)

Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs has heard that you object to Greek frontier extending even to Cavalla, but does not believe it. He has also heard that opposition comes from Vienna, but he thinks that it is really due to Russia, which wishes to save Bulgaria from "humiliation."

Greek Government do not ask to humiliate Bulgaria, and consequently do not want to occupy Sophia, their two main points are equilibrium and deliverance of as many Greeks as possible from Bulgarian rule in consequence of recent massacres. The King of Greece feels very strongly on this point.

[34233] No. 565.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 138.)
(Telegraphic.) *Decode.* *Athens, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Following for Director of Military Operations from military attaché —

"Greek centre reported to have forced whole Kresna defile up to north end. Right has occupied Dobrinsta and Banjska. Left pursuing enemy towards Treskovo."

[34081] No. 566.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 135.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Your telegram No. 37 of 23rd July and my telegram No. 133 of 23rd July.

General Coanda, the Roumanian Inspector-General of Artillery now with the Roumanian army, has been ordered to Nisch, and should arrive to-morrow, in order to discuss terms of suspension of hostilities.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[34173] No. 567

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 136.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Bucharest, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

My telegram No. 130 of 22nd July.

Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs' reply states that he is in agreement with Roumanian Government on the main points as a basis for peace, and, as regards points of secondary importance, he foresees no difficulty. He agrees to peace negotiations at Bucharest, and plenipotentiaries will be appointed.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[34208] No. 568

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 137.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Belgrade telegram No. 183 of 23rd July.

The change of attitude of the Servian Government is presumably prompted from Athens, and, if so, Greece seems now the chief obstacle to a cessation of hostilities.

I gather from the telegram that it would be much appreciated there if the Greek Government were strongly urged from London and Berlin to send delegates to Nisch for negotiation of armistice, or, at any rate, temporary suspension of hostilities.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[34242] No. 569.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 69.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 24, 1913.*

BALKANS.

Greeks to-day occupied Kresna Pass.

Above sent to Athens and Constantinople.

[34709] No. 570.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.**

(No. 153.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 24, 1913.*

AT the *réunion* to-day it appeared that the German Government were opposed to joining in coercive measures against Turkey at present. The Italian Government thought that there might be some transaction with the Turks being granted conditions in return for withdrawing from Adrianople. The Austrian Ambassador had no instructions about coercive measures. The French Government were prepared to join in anything in which all the Powers co-operated. I stated that His Majesty's Government could not join in coercive measures at present. The Russian Ambassador was of the opinion that something must be done, but he did not oppose the Italian idea of granting conditions to the Turks.

I said that as regards coercive measures generally, I thought that the Powers would never agree to take them collectively until they had reviewed the settlement of Macedonia and Thrace as a whole and found themselves in agreement on all points.

* Also to Mr. Carnegie (No. 465), Earl Granville (No. 233), Sir R. Rodd (No. 191), and Sir G. Buchanan (No. 259).

They might then make it clear that they were prepared to treat all the Near Eastern States alike and to impose their decision upon whatever State disputed it.

The *réunion* came to the following resolution:

"D'après les réponses de tous les Gouvernements à la question qui leur a été posée par les Ambassadeurs à la suite de leur dernière réunion, les Puissances sont d'accord pour affirmer la nécessité du maintien des principes posés par le Traité de Londres et notamment de la disposition relative à la ligne Enos-Midia.

"Sur la proposition de Sir E. Grey la réunion est d'avis que par une démarche identique les Puissances devraient rappeler le Gouvernement ottoman au respect du Traité de Londres et notamment de la disposition relative à la ligne Enos-Midia.

"En même temps le Gouvernement ottoman pourra être avisé que dans la délimitation de la frontière, les Puissances seraient disposées à prendre en considération les conditions que la Turquie peut estimer indispensables pour assurer la sécurité de cette frontière."

The *réunion* then proceeded to discuss other matters.

The French and Italian Ambassadors announced that the French and Italian Governments had authorised the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas and the Società commerciale de l'Oriente to advance 6,000,000 francs to the Montenegrin Government—2,000,000 francs at once and 4,000,000 francs within three months—on account of the loan which Montenegro might contract with the support of the Powers, after she had evacuated the localities in Albania which were in her occupation.

The Austrian Ambassador put forward the following amendment to the seventh paragraph of the Austro-Italian proposal for the organisation of Albania:—

"Le Prince sera remis dans un délai de six mois au plus tard. En attendant sa désignation et la formation du Gouvernement définitif, le fonctionnement régulier des autorités nationales provisoires, mis sous le contrôle de la commission internationale."

There was a general opinion that if the word "existantes" was substituted for the words "nationales provisoires" this formula might be accepted, and the whole arrangement for the provisional administration of Albania adopted, but the Ambassadors considered it necessary to refer to their Governments.

At the end of the *réunion* a telegram was brought to the French Ambassador which he read to us. It was to the effect that King Ferdinand had summoned the representatives of the Great Powers and Sofia and had informed them that the Turks had advanced in the direction of Tirnovo, that they were threatening Philippopoli and Yamboli, and that they were massacring the population, who were fleeing before them. He had appealed to the name of civilisation to the Great Powers.

We all felt that the news was too serious to be discussed at the *réunion* at once, but I took the German Ambassador aside after the *réunion* and observed to him that, if the news was true and the Turks were really invading Bulgaria, I doubted whether Russia, as the original liberator of Bulgaria, could be expected to wait for the chance of joint action by all the Powers. Her hand might be forced by such grave developments of events, and I thought that it would be desirable that the German Government should, in these circumstances, form their opinion as to what would be the least undesirable form of action to be taken by Russia separately, and that the German Government should get into touch with the Russian Government on the subject. I made it clear that I was aware that, if Russia went into Armenia, it would probably be very disagreeable to the German Government, and that a possible alternative might be a naval demonstration and landing near Constantinople.

Subsequently I informed the Russian Ambassador of what I had said to the German Ambassador.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[31917] No. 571

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 229)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 24, 1913.*

ON receipt of Sir G. Lowther's despatch No. 514 of the 7th ultimo, enclosing a despatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Tyrrell, reporting on Turkish naval matters, a letter was addressed to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, enquiring whether, in their opinion, any advice should be given to the Turkish Government as to their naval expenditure, in view of the fact that a heavy outlay on Dreadnoughts would seem to be a ruinous and foolish policy for Turkey to pursue.

I transmit to you herewith copy of the Admiralty's reply,* and you should be guided by the views expressed therein in speaking to the Turkish Government on the subject.

The substance of the first three paragraphs of the Admiralty letter has been communicated privately to Sir R. Crawford, and it is also proposed to say a word to Hakki Pasha on the matter.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[34266] No. 572

M. Mincof to Sir W. Tyrrell.—(Received July 25.)

Legation de Bulgarie, 51, Queen's Gate, London, July 20, 1913.

Dear Sir William,

I RECEIVED this morning the following telegram from Dr. Ghenadief:—

"In consequence of the strong pressure of a numerous Turkish army that appeared before Adrianople on Monday evening and insisted upon the immediate surrender of the city and the fortress, our small garrison had to withdraw without offering any resistance. This morning (Tuesday) the Turkish forces took possession of the city, committing terrible excesses. The panic-stricken population fled in all directions, pursued and massacred by the Turkish troops. The same fate has befallen Kirk Kilisse. From that place our small forces have also retired. Please bring the above to the knowledge of the respective Governments and formulate once more our strong protest against this unjustifiable Turkish aggression."

I have also heard from my Government that the Roumanian headquarters have issued orders to the Roumanian armies to suspend their advance all along the line and to restore communication with the occupied territories.

Believe me, &c.
C. MINCOF

[34267] No. 573.

M. Mincof to Sir W. Tyrrell.—(Received July 25.)

Bulgarian Legation, 51, Queen's Gate, S.W., July 24, 1913.

Dear Sir William,

LATE last night I received from my Government the following significant telegram:

"The Turkish troops continue their forward movement. Their cavalry has already crossed the old Bulgarian frontier in the direction of Kizil-Agatch, and has occupied the villages of Vakouf, Constantinovo, Soujak and Dervent. Urgently request the respective Governments to make energetic representations in Constantinople for the stopping of this unprovoked invasion, and the immediate withdrawal of the Turkish forces."

You must have already heard of this from your Minister in Sophia, for M. Ghenadief informs me that he has brought the matter to the knowledge of the

* No. 216.

representatives of the Great Powers, appealing for the latters' immediate intervention in Constantinople.

Yours sincerely,
C. C. MINCOF

[34274] No. 574.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 25.)

(Confidential)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 24, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram, dated the 23rd instant, from the Admiralty relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE

Enclosure in No. 574.

Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney.

Telegraphic.) *July 23, 1913.*

YOUR Nos. 14 and 19. The Commission of Admirals should settle these questions upon Ententeal lines. The French and Russian Governments agree with His Majesty's Government in this.

Austro-Hungarian Government observe that, inasmuch as extra duties on alcohol mean only increase of said duties in accordance with Turkish law of 26th August, 1912, this war tax might be abolished, as the proceeds were assigned to expenses of war, and do not serve as a guarantee of the Ottoman Public Debt.

German, Italian, and Austro-Hungarian Governments consider that all revenues paid to commissioners of above Debt should still be paid to them.

Italian and Austro-Hungarian Governments desire cessation of 100 per cent. surtax.

You are authorised to agree, after taking account of the attitude of the various Governments as summarised above, to any compromise at which the Commission may arrive.

[34307] No. 575

Delegates of Koritza to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

Excellence, *Londres, le 25 juillet, 1913.*

RÉPONDANT à la lettre en date du 22 juillet que vous nous avez fait l'honneur de nous adresser, nous soumettons, ci-inclus, à votre Excellence un mémoire concernant la question de notre patrie Koritza, dont les primats nous ont envoyés à Londres pour solliciter devant la haute conférence des Ambassadeurs des Grandes Puissances l'assurance de notre liberté conquise par nos frères hellènes, et pour protester, par la vive voix aussi, contre l'englobement de notre patrie dans la future Albanie.

Malheureusement pour nous, votre Excellence étant très occupé, nous a décliné l'honneur de nous recevoir. Par conséquent, nous remettons à votre Excellence le mémoire en question, et nous avons la conviction que votre Excellence voudra bien l'examiner avec bienveillance et appuyer notre démarche auprès de la haute conférence.

De votre Excelence les très humbles serviteurs les délégues du district de Koritza,
H. DARDAS.
J. ADAMIDÈS.

Enclosure in No. 575.

Representatives and Delegates of Koritza to Sir Edward Grey.

Excellence,

LORSQUE, au lendemain de l'occupation de Koritza par les forces hellènes, il se fut répandu que ce district allait être incorporé au nouvel État albanais, la population

entière, effrayée du danger d'être arrachée à la Grèce et condamnée à vivre, de nouveau sous un joug musulman, pire que celui dont elle venait d'être délivrée, se réunit en "meetings" pour faire appel aux sentiments de haute justice des Grandes Puissances et solliciter de leurs représentants à la conférence de Londres que ses droits ne fussent pas méconnus, les habitants du district avaient déclaré, d'une manière aussi respectueuse que ferme qu'ils étaient décidés à verser jusqu'à la dernière goutte de leur sang, plutôt que d'accepter une solution contraire à leurs sentiments nationaux et à leurs traditions historiques.

Des efforts ayant été faits depuis pour démontrer, ce qui est absolument contraire à la réalité, que notre pays est le centre d'un mouvement intellectuel et littéraire albanais, nous avons cru de notre devoir d'déclarer, sur ce point, la haute conférence, à laquelle nous osons soumettre ce qui suit.

Pour distinguer la nationalité d'un peuple ce n'est pas assurément à son langage qu'il faut s'attacher mais bien à ses sentiments et à sa conscience nationale, tels qu'ils se révèlent dans l'exercice et l'éducation du peuple. Si l'on examine, sous ce rapport, Kortcha et ses environs, on est frappé du caractère hellénique qui y règne depuis les temps les plus reculés. Dans la bourgade de Kortcha, possède une église bâtie au douzième siècle et, dans la même ville de Kortcha, outre cette église byzantines, la cathédrale date du dix-septième siècle, Moscopolis qui se trouve à une distance de trois heures de Kortcha possède vingt-quatre églises, toutes grecques, construites au dix-septième siècle dans la même style, fonctionnait depuis plus d'un siècle une imprimerie grecque où s'imprimaient les livres ecclésiastiques, à Vithokouklon, située à une distance de quatre heures de Kortcha, existe aussi quatorze églises grecques, dont la construction remonte au dix-septième siècle.

Au point de vue de l'instruction il est établi par les registres *ad hoc* conservés à Kortcha à Moschopolis et à Vithokouklon que les écoles grecques y fonctionnent sans interruption depuis le commencement du dix-septième siècle. A l'heure actuelle, fonctionnent à Kortcha un gymnase classique, deux écoles primaires de garçons, une école de filles et plusieurs écoles préparatoires.

Dans celle-ci deux cents élèves appartenant à l'un ou à l'autre sexe, reçoivent l'instruction dans ces écoles dont les dépenses ordinaires, dépenses servant à 60,000 francs annuellement, sont couvertes par les sommes provenant d'dons et legs de riches compatriotes.

Aux environs de Kortcha fonctionnent 20 écoles de garçons et de filles ayant ensemble 2,000 élèves.

Et tandis que tel est le nombre et l'importance des écoles appartenant à l'élément grec, les Albanais ne peuvent se vanter que d'une existence, dans tout le district de Kortcha, d'une seule école de garçons et d'une autre de filles, ayant chacune une cinquantaine d'élèves environ.

La communauté grecque de Kortcha grâce à un capital de 1,000,000 de francs est dans une fortune prospère, qui encore s'accroît annuellement, en outre une pharmacie fournissant gratuitement des médicaments aux nécessiteux et dotée, tous les ans, nombre de filles pauvres.

Il est à remarquer aussi que le commerce de Kortcha qui est dans un état assez prospère, se trouve entièrement entre les mains de la population grecque.

De vos Excellences les très obéissants serviteurs, représentants des populations du district de Kortcha,

✠ GERMANOS, *Métropolite de Kortcha*
BASILE KOTTAS, *Négociant*
CONSTANTIN NOTASKAS, *Médecin*
BASILE SYNKELOS, *Avocat*
PIERRE CONDIS, *Avocat*
MICHEL LIACOS, *Négociant*
JEAN PAPAYANNIS, *Pharmacien*
JOSEPH FOUNDOS, *Banquier*
ANASTASE VALOURIS, *Médecin*

Kortcha, le 6 juin, 1913.

Les Délégués du district de Kortcha,
J. ADAMIDÈS.
H. DARDAS.
H. MANYOLETSE.

[34268]

No. 576.

Note communicated by Servian Chargé d'Affaires, July 20.

L'AFFIRMATION du Gouvernement bulgare que les troupes bulgares n'attaquent pas les troupes serbes est absolument fausse. Rien que pendant les dix derniers jours les troupes bulgares ont exécuté les attaques suivantes sur la vieille et la nouvelle frontière serbe :—

1. Le 2 (15) juillet pendant toute la journée les troupes bulgares ont énergiquement attaqué les positions serbes à Bosilgrad. Elles ont été repoussées.

2. Le même jour les Bulgares ont attaqué à Descani-Kladenats (frontière serbo-bulgare) dans l'intention de pénétrer en territoire serbe vers Vlassina. Leur attaque a été repoussée.

3. Le plan des Bulgares, qui consistait à pénétrer sur plusieurs points de la vieille frontière dans le territoire serbe, n'a eu un succès partiel qu'à début de sa mise en exécution. Mais les troupes bulgares, qui avaient réussi à occuper Kriva Reka, en furent plus tard repoussées. De même ont été repoussées leurs attaques sur Zaitchar, Vratarnitsa et Saint Nicolas.

4. Le 4 (19) juillet, à 3 heures du matin, les Bulgares dirigèrent une attaque sur la frontière serbe en passant du côté droit de la rivière Nichava dans la direction de Pirot, mais ils furent repoussés.

5. Le même jour ils attaquèrent vers Descani Kladenats et vers Egri Palanka.

6. Le même jour, à 2 heures du matin, les Bulgares attaquèrent à cote 1142 et furent partout repoussés.

7. Ce même jour les Bulgares attaquèrent vers 9 heures du soir, vers la source de la Bregalnitsa dans la direction de Tsarevo Selo, ouvrant un feu d'artillerie violent contre l'aile droite serbe, cherchant de reprendre les positions qu'ils avaient perdues auparavant. Cette attaque fut repoussée.

8. Les Bulgares attaquèrent et organisèrent vers Pirot même après le passage par cette ville du Delegué bulgare, General Paprikoff, et furent repoussés.

9. Le 7 (20) juillet les bandes de Comitadjis bulgares attaquèrent sur la ligne Predéyane-Djep.

10. Le même jour dans la soirée, les troupes régulières bulgares tournant un flanc des positions serbes, entrèrent dans le rayon de l'arrondissement de Vlassotintsi. Le combat dura sur le territoire serbe jusqu'au lendemain 8 (21) juillet à midi, quand les troupes bulgares furent rejetées de l'autre côté de la frontière.

11. Des bandes de Comitadjis ont apparu près de Bistrovats et dans le voisinage de la voie ferrée serbe mais elles ont été rejetées de l'autre côté de la frontière.

Légation Royale de Serbie, Londres,
le 24 juillet 1913.

[34373]

No. 577.

M. Mincoff to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

Légation de Bulgarie, Londres,
le 25 juillet, 1913.

Monsieur le Ministre,

DÈS le début de la guerre, une campagne de calomnies systématiques est menée avec acharnement contre la Bulgarie et son armée. Cette campagne a pris des proportions monstrueuses après l'interruption de nos communications télégraphiques avec l'Europe. Le contact avec le monde civilisé repris, la Bulgarie n'aura pas peine pour confondre ses calomniateurs et démontrer que, si les violences isolées ont pu être commises par des Bulgares exaspérés l'œuvre de destruction, pillage et meurtre a été un système chez les Grecs, Serbes et Turcs. En attendant, pour faire par les moyens les plus rapides et efficaces la lumière complète sur la conduite réelle des armées en cause, je suis chargé par mon Gouvernement de demander formellement une enquête internationale, menée par des représentants officiels des Grandes Puissances et portant sur tout le théâtre des opérations.

Je saisis, &c.
CONSTANTIN C. MINCOFF

[34364] No. 578.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty. (Communicated to Foreign Office, July 25.)

(Telegraphic.) *July 25, 1913.*

THE military forces of Austria-Hungary, Italy, and France are expected at Scutari before end of month. France is sending 200. The Austro-Hungarian military force to relieve the naval contingent at Scutari will consist of 31 officers and 535 men.

[34374] No. 579.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 361.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 25, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 358 of 22nd July.

Government has published telegram from Turkish commander-in-chief that British consul at Adrianople is informed His Majesty's Minister at Sophia that on evacuating the town Bulgarian soldiers violated several Christian girls at Karagatch.

I venture to suggest that, if as I presume, seeing that consul is absent on leave, this statement is without foundation, it should be officially contradicted in the press.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[34384] No. 580.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 362.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 25, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 360 of 23rd July.

Vice-consul at Rodosto reports troops of bashi-bozouks entered Angora on 14th, that following day bazar, 200 houses, and 150 shops were burnt and plundered, and that eighteen other villages, of which he gives names, have suffered similar fate.

No estimate of number of dead is given, but vice-consul describes Turkish army's occupation as engaged in elimination of Christians. Armenians, Greeks and Bulgarians appear to have suffered alike.

[34385] No. 581.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 363.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 25, 1913.*

PENDING some intimation of policy of His Majesty's Government in consequence of Turkish occupation of Adrianople, I have sustained, as have also Russian Ambassador and French Minister, from communication with Porte, but in view of facts reported in my telegram No. 362 of 25th July and of excesses committed on Bulgarian territory by Turkish troops, it appears to me to be imperative, if a stop is to be put to such proceedings and advance of Turks is to be arrested, that strongest representations should now be made.

Russian Ambassador has already sent his dragoman, who was at first met with an impudent denial of any excesses or even that troops had entered Bulgaria, and could only extract promise from Grand Vizier that strict orders would be sent to prevent excesses.

French Minister agrees with me that representations unless backed by threats are worse than useless, and I therefore venture to solicit your instructions.

[34388] No. 582.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 118.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 25, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 281 of 25th July.

German Minister for Foreign Affairs says that he cannot express any views until he has learnt those of Austrian Government. He has telegraphed urgently to Vienna to obtain their views, and as soon as he does so he will inform you through German Ambassador in London.

Meanwhile, speaking unofficially, he said that he was strongly opposed both to collective and individual action, and was glad to hear that French Government equally objected to both. He quite saw that it would be difficult for Russia not to move if Turks invaded Bulgaria, and he would personally much prefer that they should take action in Europe rather than in Armenia. If Russia entered Armenia, he did not see how the whole question of Asiatic Turkey could help being raised, and yet all the Powers agreed in wishing to avoid that.

He told me confidentially that French Government had suggested that Turkey might be let off indemnity and allowed a strategical improvement of the Enos Midia line, and that he had agreed.

[34368] No. 583.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 130.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 25, 1913.*

YESTERDAY the Russian Minister and Austrian Minister made strong representations in favour of signature of armistice. The latter at the same time made the declaration that the final terms of peace must be subject to the sanction of Austria.

The Russian Minister is to repeat representations to-day, stating that delay will make Greece responsible for the action of Turkey, and she is already suspected of connivance with the latter. I do not believe this (see my telegrams Nos. 124, 132, both of 21st July, and 136 of 24th July).

(Sent to Sophia and Bucharest *via* Belgrade.)

[34297] No. 584.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 138.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 25, 1913.*

KING of Roumania telegraphed to the Sultan on 23rd July pointing out the danger of invading territory given to Bulgaria by Europe.

(Sent to Constantinople and Sophia.)

[34370] No. 585.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 139.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 25, 1913.*

SOPHIA telegram No. 319 of 24th July and my telegram No. 126 of 22nd July.

Orders were sent yesterday direct from the King for the withdrawal to within the passes of any Roumanian troops who had advanced beyond them.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[34375] No. 586.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 25.*)

(No. 140.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 25, 1913.*

ATHENS telegram No. 135 of 24th July.

Formal invitations to send plenipotentiaries to the Peace Conference at Bucharest were despatched yesterday to Sophia, Athens, Belgrade, and Cettinjé.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, Belgrade, and Cettinjé.)

[34383] No. 587.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 141.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 25, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from the military attaché for the Director of Military Operations:

"It is officially announced that Roumanian cavalry is in possession of southern exit of Balkan passes.

"Main body is continuing its march southward. Yesterday I saw 2nd army corps about 20 miles east of Vratza in valley of Iskar, and 3rd army corps, marching in the rear of it, should have reached Kharo last night. Above to the centre of Roumanian advance. Probably 1st army corps is at Berkovitza and 4th somewhere south west of Mariev.

"The only bridge in use is at Gorna Oriahovitza, a second is being constructed opposite Nicopolis."

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Belgrade.)

[34386] No. 588.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 186.)
(Telegraphic.) *Belgrade, July 25, 1913.*

THE Prime Minister tells me that he is leaving for Bucharest on Sunday in company of the four Servian and Greek Ministers in Sophia. He sees no reason why peace preliminaries and suspension of hostilities should not be settled early next week if Bulgaria is reasonable. There would be no negotiations at Nisch.

He maintains that the Bulgarian need for cessation of hostilities cannot be as great as the Bulgarian Government represent, since the Bulgarian forces are constantly attacking the Servian troops. The Bulgarian object is, by representing the situation as desperate, to secure armistice before any peace terms are settled, then delay and make use of the respite to improve their position from a military point of view.

(Sent to Sophia, Athens, and Bucharest.)

33348. No. 589.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 349.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 351 of 20th July. Proposal of Porte to Ottoman Public Debt.

You should represent to British delegate undesirability of supporting scheme at this moment.

[34223] No. 590.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Elliot.

(No. 108.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.*

WITH the desire of promoting agreement between the Powers I have expressed the view that Bulgaria must have a port on the Ægean and I shall not object to anything that does promote agreement.

The important point for the moment seems to be that Greece should aquiesce in what I understand to be desire of Roumania and other belligerents to effect an agreement without delay for cessation of hostilities. It seems probable that every State that cannot use success with moderation will sooner or later suffer in turn. You should inform Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Second paragraph repeated to Bucharest, No. 38, for information of Minister for Foreign Affairs.)

[33965] No. 591.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Elliot.

(No. 109.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 27, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 129 of July 19th. Military attaché.

Inform military attaché that, as purpose for which he was sent cannot be attained, he is recalled and I should return home at once.

Inform Greek Government of this step, and of the reasons for which it has been taken.

[34451] No. 592.

*Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Carnegie.**

(No. 292.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.*

THE *réunions* have now worked practically without intermission for many months. It is essential that the personnel, including myself should get as much rest as circumstances will admit, and I propose to adjourn the meetings after next week. Whether they are resumed after an interval can be decided by circumstances and the wishes of the Governments later on.

Apart from this, the latest startling developments in the Balkans, while not ripe for final decisions, prevent the various Governments from giving more than a secondary attention to remaining questions affecting Albania and the islands, respecting which decisions are necessary to complete the work originally taken up by the *réunions*.

There has also of late been a tendency to multiply conditions of detail and points of form rather than of substance, and the very facility with which points can be raised and discussed at the *réunions* seems to encourage this tendency. Progress as regards the organisation of Albania and settlement of its southern frontier has been greatly impeded in this way.

I still hope it may be possible next week to agree about the commission of control for Albania, and to ask Swedish Government to select officers for gendarmerie, and to settle some points about protection of Albanian minorities, &c.

Italians now show a disposition to reserve question of islands, at any rate those in their occupation, till claims of Greece are dealt with as a whole, this will delay decision about Koritza and Styros.

I would suggest therefore that after next week all questions that remain should for the present be dealt with through the ordinary channels between the Powers, or in whatever manner the Powers consider most convenient.

You should inform Minister for Foreign Affairs.

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* Also to Earl Granville (No. 282), Sir G. Buchanan (No. 554), Sir F. Cartwright (No. 234), and Sir R. Rodd (No. 225).

[34488] No. 593

Sir Edward Grey to Earl Granville

(No. 281)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913*

I HAVE hitherto done all I could to discourage resort to precipitate coercive action against Turkey, and I hoped this might have been avoided for the present, so long as Turks did not advance beyond Adrianople.

But latest news that Turks are advancing into Bulgaria, and have embarked on a forward policy of vengeance and reprisals, if true, makes it probable that hand of Russian Government will be forced. I do not see how Russia, original liberator of Bulgaria, can be induced by any of us to remain inactive while Turkish troops devastate Bulgaria, which is now defenceless.

If separate Russian action becomes inevitable in absence of combined action by the Powers, it is most desirable that it should take the form that is least disagreeable to other Powers, and if German Government have definite view on this point it would be very desirable that they should get into touch with Russian Government. I have spoken in this sense to German Ambassador, and you should inform Minister for Foreign Affairs.

[34217] No. 594.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright

(No. 235.)
(Telegraphic) *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 418 of 24th July. Albania.

With substitution of "ex statutes" for "statuts organiques provisoires" I think the formula might be accepted, but it is regrettable that Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs has found it necessary to make a counter-proposal. What cannot be settled at the *réunions* next week will have to be dealt with through ordinary diplomatic channels or in whatever other way the Powers can devise as it is essential for the sake of rest to adjourn the *réunions* at or after the end of this month.

As to criticism of attitude of Admiral Burney, he has of course done best to maintain organisation of Albania by Montenegrins. I understood this was what Minister for Foreign Affairs desired. British Minister at Belgrade has also latterly urged evacuation of Vrashdue by Servians, but His Majesty's Government have no political interests at issue in these matters nor any desire to get credit for them.

[34911] No. 595.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie

(No. 166.)
Sir *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913*

IN the course of the conversation that I had with M. Cambon to-day, he said that it was impossible for a private company, which was under contract to advance sums of money to Turkey in connection with the tobacco régie, to withhold this money for political considerations. Russia had made a great point of the withholding of the money, but it was a question that concerned France only.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[34913] No. 596.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie

(No. 467.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.*

M. CAMBON told me to-day that he had spoken to Prince Lichnowsky yesterday about the inevitability of separate action by Russia if Turkey invaded Bulgaria, and had suggested that, as Germany was very opposed to Russia going into Armenia, it would be desirable that Russian action should be taken in the neighbourhood of

Constantinople, on the understanding that Russia would withdraw as soon as the Turkish troops were withdrawn from Bulgarian territory.

I told M. Cambon of my conversation with Prince Lichnowsky last evening, and of my telegram No. 281 of to-day to Lord Granville, observing that we appeared to have said almost exactly the same thing.

M. Cambon said that it would be desirable, if Russia was to do anything, that she should take the initiative in informing the Powers. This would be preferable to a discussion amongst the Powers with a view to giving Russia a mandate.

I entirely agreed. If the Powers took the attitude that, in view of what the Turks had done, objection could not be raised to action by Russia the original liberator of Bulgaria, to protect Bulgaria this attitude would be much easier for the Powers to take than to give Russia a mandate and to assume responsibility for all that Russia did.

M. Cambon spoke of M. Sazonoff's idea that France, England, and Russia might engage in a demonstration together, without the other Great Powers. This M. Cambon said, was impossible. It would be much better that Russia should not move.

I entirely agreed.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[35069] No. 597.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir G. Barclay.

No. 23.)
Sir *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.*

THE Roumanian Minister left the following communication with Sir Louis Mallet yesterday:—

"Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat, *Légation de Roumanie, Londres, le 24 juillet, 1913.*

"Me conformant aux instructions de mon Gouvernement, j'ai l'honneur de communiquer ci-dessous à votre Excellence le texte d'un télégramme que je viens de recevoir à ce sujet de Bucarest:—

"'Veuillez porter à la connaissance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique que Sa Majesté le Roi, notre auguste Souverain, a adressé ces jours-ci à leurs Majestés les Rois de Grèce, de Serbie et de Monténégro le télégramme suivant:—

"'"Sa Majesté le Roi de Bulgarie s'est adressé à moi avec la prière d'intervenir auprès de votre Majesté pour accélérer la conclusion de la paix. Les circonstances qui ont changé la situation générale et des rapports entre les Grandes Puissances, qui n'admettront pas une trop grande humiliation de la Bulgarie, me font un devoir d'attirer l'attention de votre Majesté sur l'état précaire dans lequel se trouve ce pays et sur l'intérêt que nous avons d'arriver le plus tôt possible à un armistice après avoir établi préalablement les mesures militaires les plus urgentes.

"'"Je ne doute pas que votre Majesté ne voie dans ma démarche une nouvelle preuve de l'amitié que je lui porte, ainsi que le mon intérêt pour l'avenir de la Grèce [Serbie], [Monténégro], qui doit, comme nous, désirer que l'équilibre dans la péninsule balkanique, exigé par l'Europe entière, ne soit pas trop ébranlé.

"'"Toute nouvelle effusion de sang ne pourrait qu'empirer la situation.—MAJORESCO."'

"J'ai, &c.
N. MISU.

I asked the Minister to come to see me to-day, and said that I was entirely in sympathy with the Roumanian communication. I was not sure, however, that the people concerned were ready to take advice. Bulgaria had not taken advice when it was offered, or she would not have been in the position in which she now was. I did not know how far Greece was prepared to listen to advice, but I had instructed Sir Francis Elliot to say in Athens that the important thing at the moment was for Greece to acquiesce in the desire of Roumania and other belligerents to come to an agreement for the cessation of hostilities at once, and I had added—as the moral of recent events—that every State that could not use success with moderation would sooner or later suffer in turn.

The Roumanian Minister expressed great pleasure at what I had said to him, and added that he was sure it would give the greatest satisfaction to King Charles.

I said that just as Bulgaria had suffered, so it seemed to me that Turkey would bring disastrous consequences on herself by her immoderate action now.

The Minister told me that Turkey had sounded Roumania as to support in getting back territory, but had been warned by the King of Roumania that the Powers would not give up the Enos-Midia line.

The Minister also said that if Greece and Servia would sign an armistice the Bulgarian and Roumanian forces together ought easily to be able to drive the Turks out of Bulgaria, though this was of course only an expression of his own opinion, and he did not know that there was any such idea in the mind of his Government.

I said that it had already occurred to me that, if Turkey pressed on, the Balkan States might all unite themselves armies again, with Roumania at their head. This would be a somewhat amusing new development.

The Roumanian Minister made it clear that the object of his Government now was to save Bulgaria from being crushed, and I entirely agreed with this object.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[33969] No. 598.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Paget.

(No. 44.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.*

THE Servian Chargé d'Affaires asked Sir A. Nicolson on the 22nd instant whether Servia would have a representative on the international commission to delimit the north and north-eastern frontier of Albania. He said that Servia desired a strategical frontier, and that it was of high importance to her to have a delegate on the Boundary Commission.

Sir A. Nicolson told M. Gruitch that he did not think that the admission of a Servian delegate was contemplated, as the Powers had reserved to themselves the right of dealing with Albania and had already drawn up the general lines of the frontier. Moreover, if Servia were admitted, Montenegro would prefer a similar request, and Greece, and possibly others, might also demand to be represented on a commission when the southern frontier was delimited.

M. Gruitch said that he wished Sir A. Nicolson to take note of the request of his Government to be represented on the Commission, and added that he would send in an *aide-mémoire* on the subject.

A copy of this paper, which has since been received, is enclosed.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

Enclosure in No. 598.

Aide-memoire communicated by M. Gruitch.

LE tracé précis de la frontière serbo-albanaise, auquel doit procéder prochainement sur les lieux la commission spécialement nommée à cet effet, est une question qui intéresse au premier titre et tout particulièrement la Serbie.

C'est pourquoi, et vu l'importance que la fixation d'une frontière stratégique aura, tant au point de vue des relations futures entre la Serbie et l'Albanie qu'à celui du maintien de l'ordre et de la sécurité sur cette même frontière, le Gouvernement serbe espère que sa demande qu'un représentant serbe soit admis à prendre part aux travaux de la commission sera accueillie favorablement.

Légation Royale de Serbie, Londres,
le 22 juillet, 1913.

[34912] No. 599.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir C. Spring-Rice.

(No. 411.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.*

THE American Ambassador told me to-day that he was instructed to say that his Government would be grateful for any information that I could give about the proceedings of the Ambassadors' conference. For instance, could his Government have the text of the Treaty of Peace of the 30th May last? And especially, was there any information I could give about the question of the Jews in the Near East? His Government had taken some part in securing for the Jews the rights that they possessed in Turkey, and they were anxious that they should retain these rights in the territories that had now been conquered from Turkey.

I said that the text of the Treaty of Peace had I thought been published, and I would send him a copy. The treaty had however, not been signed by me or any of the Ambassadors. The proceedings of the Ambassadors' conference were informal and private. Their main work had been to promote an agreement about the status and limits of Albania which would prevent serious differences from arising between Austria and Russia. The proceedings were more in the nature of conversations. The question of the Jews had not been discussed at all by the conference. If, later on, there was a formal conference to regulate questions arising out of the war in the Balkan peninsula, presumably that would be the time when the question of the Jews could be discussed. I would bear in mind what the American Ambassador had said to me, and would inform him of anything that occurred on this point.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[31976] No. 600.

Memorandum communicated to American Ambassador.

ARTICLE 6 of the Treaty of Peace, signed in London on the 30th May by representatives of Turkey and by the then allied Balkan States, states that the signatories "déclarent remettre le soin de régler les questions d'ordre financier résultant de l'état de guerre qui prend fin et des cessions territoriales consenties mentionnées à la commission internationale convoquée à Paris à laquelle ils ont délégué leurs représentants."

The programme of the commissioners' work proposed by the French Government and approved by all the Powers comprises:

1. The apportionment of the Ottoman Public Debt between Turkey and the Balkan States.
2. The guarantees to be given by the latter in connection therewith.
3. The settlement of the question of concessions held from and contracts made with the Turkish Government in the territories ceded to the Balkan States.
4. The question of the payment of a war indemnity by Turkey to the Balkan States.

The question of the conditions on which the increase of the Turkish customs duties is to be admitted will not come before the Financial Commission.

Foreign Office, July 25, 1913.

[34429] No. 601.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 43.)
Sir, *Cettinje, July 14, 1913.*

ALTHOUGH hostilities had already been in progress for a few days it was not until the 7th July that the Bulgarian Minister informed the Montenegrin Government that he had received orders to leave Cettinje, and to hand over Bulgarian interests to

the charge of the Russian Legation. No explanation was offered as to the cause of his departure, and no allusion was made to the outbreak of war between the two States. M. Koloucheff started from Cettinjé very early on the following morning before daybreak.

In the course of the day the Montenegrin Government prepared a note for the Russian Legation, stating that by the treaty signed at London on the 30th May, Turkey had ceded to the four allies territory to the west of the Enos-Midia line. This territory had been conquered by the efforts of all the allies, and should be divided on an equitable basis in proportion to the sacrifices made respectively by them. But Bulgaria had raised claims founded on a treaty made with Servia before the outbreak of the war. As it had not been communicated to them the Montenegrin Government did not recognise that their rights could be affected by any such treaty, and on learning that the Bulgarian Government had concentrated troops in order to enforce its provisions, they had sent an army to the Vardar to defend their interests, and to fulfil their obligations to their Greek and Servian allies.

The note went on to say that Bulgaria continued to maintain her unjustifiable pretensions and refusing to accept the arbitration of the Emperor of Russia had had recourse to arms in order to obtain more than the Treaty of London had given to her. On the 30th June she had unexpectedly attacked the three allies on the line of the Vardar and in search Macedonia with the intention of robbing them by surprise of the fruits of their sacrifices, making war without any previous declaration. She had withdrawn her legation without venturing to give any reason for its departure, which might thus be interpreted as a step further, to mean either a rupture or a mere suspension of diplomatic relations. In these circumstances the Montenegrin Government considered that the mission of the Bulgarian Minister was terminated, and that diplomatic relations had ceased between the two countries.

On the 10th July King Nicola issued to his people a proclamation, which it may be noted (unlike the proclamation issued respectively at the commencement and during the Turkish war) is countersigned by the Cabinet with the exception of the Prime Minister who is in command of the troops in the field. The document itself, with its poverty of ideas and stilted language is not in keeping with the present, if somewhat high flown phrases of the King's command. It may be that the King whose personal inclination is thought to have been opposed at first to committing his country to the support of Servia, has desired to let it be seen that in this case the policy pursued is that of his Government, and that responsibility for it rests with them.

I have, &c.
J. DE SALIS.

Inclosure in No. 601.

Extract from the "Glas."

(Translation.)

PROCLAMATION

Montenegrins,

WHEN the sun of freedom and deliverance shone on the suffering Christian peoples of the Balkans, when the last shadow of the bag of the Prophet disappeared in order to make way for the flags of the allies, when sovereignty passed from the hands of the Turks into those of the allied Balkan States, when the Balkan peoples, yearning for justice and civilisation, embraced each other, dark clouds began to cover the Balkans in which brother no longer recognised brother, but each seized arms to attack the other. The blood of brothers is being shed from the Danube to Salonica. Sacrifice after sacrifice is again made as if there had not already been enough at Scutari, Kumanovo, Janina, and Adrianople. The first sacrifices to be made are ours, they are Serb sacrifices, made by the hands of treacherous brothers. The same hand has also shed the blood of the gallant Greeks, our staunch allies, to whom the Balkans owe so much by land and sea.

Montenegrins,

Intoxicated by success and glory, our fourth comrade attempted to take for himself what we had gained in common, without regard either for the law of God or for the fatherly decision of the Czar Protector who, for our good and for the unity

between us which he so much desires, has offered his intervention. The erring Bulgarians have torn themselves away from Slav community of interests, and have fallen on their brothers and allies. One must drive them back with the same weapons, and bring them to a respect of common Slav interests. This decision has been a heavy blow to my heart, it is as if one hand were to cut off the other, but it cannot be otherwise. My heart is sad at having to appeal to your courage to drive back the attacks of the Bulgarians, but I live in hope that when the angel of peace again spreads his wings over the Balkans a stronger and fresher tree of Balkan unity will grow from the blood which is now being spilt.

Montenegrins,

You who are assembled in the army of Declani, and who have already fought in the valleys of the Vardar, Bregalnica and Struma, with our brothers from Servia in defence of Serb interests, show on this occasion that you are defenders of right and freedom, ready to die for a just cause. And the rest of you my beloved Montenegrins, be prepared now as ever to do your duty for your country and for Serb interests.

Right is on our side. Where right is, there is also God, to whom I recommend our sacred common interests.

NICOLA.

Cettinje 27 June (10 July), 1913.

L. GOZNITCH
R. POPOVITCH
M. MIJUSHKOVITCH
L. BAKITCH
P. PLAMENATZ

[34425] No. 502.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 109.)

Sir, *Vienna, July 23, 1913.*

THE following curious communication is published in to-day's issue of the 'Neue Freie Presse.' I am unable to verify the statement which is dated from Scutari, but I think it may be worth while to bring it to your notice:—

"The President of the International Commission, Admiral Cecil Burney, has written to the Shala and Shoshi tribes to announce that he has received from Kol Shala a request that an English governor should be appointed to manage their national affairs. This governor would be appointed as soon as the mounted gendarmerie was organised.

'After receiving this letter, the chiefs of the above-mentioned tribes assembled, and informed the admiral that no one of the name of Kol Shala existed on their territory, and that no member of their tribes had been authorised to ask for an English governor. As soon as they could lay hands on Kol Shala, if there was such a person, his house would be burned according to Albanian law, he himself would be punished as a traitor to his country, and his goods would be confiscated. The tribes further declared that they could not recognise a governor, either of English or of any other nationality, unless the independence of Albania were first recognised, its frontiers delimited on ethnographical principles, and its Sovereign proclaimed. If a governor had to be appointed, they demanded that he should be an Albanian. If, however, he must be a foreigner, it was necessary, in order that he should be recognised by the tribes, that he should be presented to them by the Austro-Hungarian and Italian Governments, as they had full confidence in the intentions of the latter with regard to their independence, and the integrity of Albania."

I have, &c.
FAIRFAX L. CARTWRIGHT

[34426] No. 603.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 110.)

Sir, *Vienna, July 24, 1913*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of an *aide-mémoire* from the Imperial and Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the organisation of Albania, the substance of which I have already reported to you in my telegram No. 118 of to-day.

I have, &c.

FAIRFAX L. CARTWRIGHT

Enclosure in No. 603.

Aide-mémoire communicated to Sir F. Cartwright.

EN réponse à l'aide-mémoire du 22 courant, le Ministère Impérial et Royal des Affaires Etrangères a l'honneur d'attirer confidentiellement l'attention de l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté britannique sur les points suivants :—

Tout en partageant le vif désir de Sir Edward Grey d'arriver à un accord sur la question de l'organisation de l'Albanie le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal croit devoir relever que le fait de la formation d'autorités provisoires nationales en Albanie, ainsi que l'ascendant que les Puissances qui se sont montrées favorables à l'idée nationale albanaise ont pu gagner dans le pays, est la conséquence naturelle des tendances contraires de quelques autres Cabinets auxquelles est également due la prolongation de l'état provisoire en Albanie.

Quant à l'influence respective des Puissances en Albanie, le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal croit devoir, du reste, observer confidentiellement que l'attitude de l'Amiral britannique, Sir Cecil Burney, a fait naître le soupçon que l'évacuation de Scutari par les Monténégrins est due plutôt à l'initiative de la Grande-Bretagne qu'à un acte international.

En mettant à part ces considérations générales, le Cabinet de Vienne, tout en cherchant à trouver une formule acceptable pour les autres Gouvernements, ne peut cependant consentir à des propositions qui attribueraient à la commission de contrôle des pouvoirs gouvernementaux ou qui tendraient à dominer les autorités nationales existantes, qui ont—malgré tout—le mérite d'avoir assuré l'ordre et la tranquillité au moins dans les régions évacuées par les troupes balkaniques.

C'est dans cet ordre d'idées que le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal croit devoir formuler la contre-proposition suivante pour le texte de l'alinéa 7 :

"Le Prince sera nommé dans un délai de six mois au plus tard. En attendant sa désignation et la formation du Gouvernement national définitif, le fonctionnement des autorités nationales provisoires ainsi que de la gendarmerie, formera l'objet du contrôle de la commission internationale."

En espérant que cette formule pourrait être généralement acceptée, le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal serait prêt à maintenir son consentement à la prolongation du mandat de la commission de cinq à dix ans pourvu que sur tous les autres points un accord complet puisse être obtenu dans les termes du projet austro-italien.

Vienne, le 23 juillet, 1913.

[34505] No. 604.

Note communicated by Austro-Hungarian Legation, July 26, 1913.

LE consulat Impérial et Royal à Durazzo mande que les Serbes maintiennent leurs détachements d'occupation aux deux passages de montagnes Tchafa Boulit et Tchafa Mours à l'est de Durazzo.

Le consulat général Impérial et Royal à Scutari confirme que les soldats serbes stationnés à Orochi—district de Mirdite—ont occupé la montagne Mali Cheint au sud d'Orocni.

Le consulat Impérial et Royal à Monastir a pu constater que les troupes serbes occupent la chaîne de collines Mali Tchernika près de Martaneche au nord-est d'Elbassan.

Les Serbes tiennent donc une ligne allant d'Orochi au nord jusqu'à Martaneche au sud, qui comprend les montagnes Mali Cheint, Mal. Deys, Tchafa Mours Vali, Tchafa Say, Tchafa Boulit et Mali Tchernika et qui est dans l'intérieur de l'Albanie 30 à 40 kilom. au delà de la frontière fixée par les Puissances pour l'Albanie.

Le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal appuie de nouveau sur l'urgence de voir l'Albanie évacuée par les troupes serbes.

Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres,
le 25 juillet, 1913.

[34399] No. 605.

Telegrams from M. Sazon[o]f to Count Benckendorff.—(Communicated to Foreign Office July 26.)

(1.)

Saint-Pétersbourg, le 9 (22) juillet, 1913.

REÇU votre telegramme du 8 (21) juillet.

Vous pouvez dire confidentiellement à Sir Edward Grey qu'en l'absence de Sa Majesté, dont le retour est attendu à la fin de la semaine, je crois me borner, sans préjuger d'autres moyens de coercition, à donner le consentement du Gouvernement russe à toute manifestation navale contre la Turquie. Pour ce qui est des doutes émis sur l'efficacité de cette mesure, je crois que la participation d'une force navale russe de la mer Noire pourrait obvier à ces inconvénients.

(2.)

(Très Confidentiel.) *Saint-Pétersbourg, le 10 (23 juillet, 19..)*

EN vue du refus de l'Allemagne de se joindre à la démonstration navale collective, nous voudrions connaître la vue du Gouvernement près duquel vous êtes accrédité sur la possibilité d'effectuer cette démonstration par les forces navales combinées, anglaise, française et russe. Parallèlement nous croyons nécessaire de déclarer au plus tôt à la Turquie qu'aucun secours financier ne lui sera accordé avant sa soumission à la décision des Puissances dans la question de la frontière de Thrace. Nous espérons que le Gouvernement français prévient le second versement de la somme due à la Turquie du fait de renouvellement du contrat de la Régie du Tabac. Vous pouvez prévenir le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères que la Russie ne saurait se réconcilier avec la réoccupation d'Andrinople par les Turcs, qui remplacerait les populations chrétiennes sous la domination ottomane. Nous nous joindrons à toute initiative collective, mais si celle-ci faisait défaut nous nous verrions obligés, en dernière instance, de recourir à une action isolée, que tout particulièrement nous tiendrions à éviter.

(Identique à Paris.)

[34509] No. 606.

Sir H Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 320.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 25, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 24th July
General situation to-day appears to be as follows —

Roumanians, unopposed, are occupying Turtukai Baltchik line and country east of Lom Widin Vratsa with small force at Orhanie 30 miles from Sophia.

Ottoman forces stated in my telegram No. 318 of 24th July to be unopposed are rapidly marching towards Philippopol. Greek force which Bulgarians, however, expect to realise has reached Yakuruca, equally distant from Sophia and Philippopoli.

Main Greek force is in touch with Servians along front from Kochana to Djuma, where severe fighting continues. Bulgarians are making every effort to hold their south west front.

(Sent to Constantinople Belgrade, and Bucharest.)

[34387] No. 607

Sir H Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 321.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair* *Sophia, July 25, 1913.*

BULGARIAN plenipotentiaries, M. Istoff, General Fitshef, and Dr Sava Ivantcheff leave to-morrow for Bucharest, accompanied by M Madjaroff proceeding London.

(Repeated to Belgrade and Bucharest.)

[34417] No. 608.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 111.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July 25, 1913.*

KING of Roumania has telegraphed to the following effect to the King of Montenegro.

King of the Bulgarians has asked me to intervene in order to accelerate the conclusion of peace. My knowledge of the general situation and relations between the Powers which will not allow Bulgaria to be weakened too much, oblige me to draw your Majesty's attention to the serious condition of that country and to our common interest to conclude armistice as soon as possible. Montenegro should also desire that the Balkan equilibrium required by Europe should not be too much shaken. Fresh bloodshed will make the situation worse.

King Nicholas has replied that he is animated by the same sentiments, but cannot accept armistice without substantial guarantees that peace will be concluded by Bulgaria. His delegates have been despatched to Bucharest to negotiate preliminaries of peace and to sign armistice at the same time.

(Sent to Bucharest.)

[34524] No. 609.

Sir H Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.— Received July 26.)

(No. 322.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 26, 1913.*

CONSTANTINOPLE telegram No. 361 of 25th July.

I have received no information from Adrianople respecting maltreatment of Christian girls at Karagatch.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

[34513] No. 610.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 26.)

(No. 119.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 26, 1913.*

YOUR telegram to Paris, No. 292 of 25th July

German Minister for Foreign Affairs quite agrees that meetings of Ambassadors should be adjourned after next week. But hopes very much that it may be possible to agree first about commission of control as you suggest. He would also much prefer that Albanian frontier should be settled, he does not see that the islands occupied by Italy come into province of Ambassadors, and now that Greece has secured so great an extension of territory he thinks it ought not to be difficult to deprive her of so small a point as Koritza, which, he learns, is a purely Albanian town.

[34516] No. 611

Sir G Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 142.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 26, 1913.*

YOUR telegram to Athens No. 108 of 25th July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs is most grateful for your action at Athens. He sees in it a proof that the efforts which Roumania is making to bring about an early settlement are appreciated.

I learn that Turkey has asked to be represented at conference, and that Roumanian Government have refused.

I learn also that Servia has ordered a suspension of hostilities for four days.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia Belgrade, and Constantinople.)

[34517] No. 612

Sir G Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 143.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Bucharest, July 26, 1913.*

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs has this morning begged Ministers of Great Powers to draw attention of our Governments to the unfortunate effect which the attitude of Turkey and operations of her army [two groups undecypherable] have on work of the conference which is to meet next week at Bucharest.

Roumanian Government fear it will be most difficult for conference to reach definite conclusions unless Bulgaria has from outset the certainty that Ottoman Government will abide by the Treaty of London, they fear it will be difficult to ask of her, or to impose on her, concessions on one side, while on the other side she remains exposed to risk of having to abandon territory which has been conquered by her.

Moreover, if the Great Powers have not succeeded in making Turkey conform to their wishes and in imposing on her the execution of the Treaty of London, it appears to Roumanian Government that it will be equally difficult for Great Powers to act effectively with Roumanian Government on Servia and Greece in order to bring them to moderate their pretensions, *vis-à-vis* Bulgaria.

In these circumstances Minister for Foreign Affairs considers, in order to ensure success of Bucharest conference, it would be of the greatest importance that the Great Powers should employ all their influence at Constantinople in order to oblige Turkey to withdraw without delay her troops to behind line fixed by the Treaty of London.

My colleagues are telegraphing to their Governments in the above sense.

(Sent to Constantinople, Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[34520] No. 613.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 141.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 26, 1913.*

I REGRET that the information in the last paragraph of my telegram No. 142 of 26th July was incorrect. Servian Government have only consented to a four days' suspension of hostilities if Greece also consents.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, Belgrade and Constantinople.)

[34518] No. 614.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 140.)
(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 26, 1913.*

M. VENIZELOS leaves to-day for Bucarest. He hopes that preliminaries of peace will be arranged within twenty-four hours of meeting of plenipotentiaries. Negotiations for armistice will begin simultaneously at Nisch and as soon as it is apparent that peace is probable orders will be sent for cessation of hostilities. Until then King will not hear of it, believing that political advantage of pleasing Roumania is not compensation for military disadvantage of an armistice.

Derlenge tch was occupied yesterday. M. Venizelos formally declared to me that this was partly because Bulgarian regulars had returned, and the population was afraid of irregulars, and partly because it was reported that Turkish troops were on their way there. He stated positively there was no idea of conquest. I read him your telegram No. 108 of 25th July. He said that Greek claims would not be excessive, and to familiar arguments for retention of coast-towns in Greece he added new one, that Greece must now expect in a few years an attempt at *revanche* by Bulgaria, and must therefore be strong enough to meet her single-handed, as she cannot permanently count upon Servia and Roumania. He hoped that Triple *Entente* would see their interest in supporting her.

(Sent to Sophia and Bucharest via Belgrade.)

[34541] No. 615.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 275.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *St. Petersburgh, July 26, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 554 of 25th July.

Ordinarily speaking to Minister for Foreign Affairs his Excellency at first expressed himself as unfavourable to proposed adjournment. He thought more progress ought to have been made with settlement of Albanian question, and he disliked idea of Ambassadors separating at present moment as their meetings served as an outward and visible sign of existence of Europe. Finally he withdrew his objections though he expressed the hope that it might be found possible to settle first the two points referred to in fourth paragraph of your telegram. He added that he envied you your holiday, but hoped that you would remain within reach of telegrams.

[34542] No. 616.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 276.)
(Telegraphic.) *St. Petersburgh, July 26, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 273 of 23rd July.

Emperor returned yesterday to Peterhof, but Minister for Foreign Affairs has not yet seen him.

His Excellency has decided to recall two Russian ships at present stationed at Constantinople in hope that this step may serve as a warning to Turks. He is still in favour of a naval demonstration by England, France, and Russia. From his language this morning I gather that he is anxious, if possible, to avoid sending troops into

Armenia for fear of involving whole question of Asiatic Turkey. He told me that Austrian Ambassador had yesterday sounded him, and had hinted that Russia might have free hand to deal with Turkey, while Austria might at the same time bring pressure to bear on Servia.

Minister for Foreign Affairs replied that he was very anxious that Austria should abstain from any such action at Belgrade. He, however, told Ambassador that it might be well were Powers, including, of course, Austria and Russia, to discuss among themselves terms of eventual Balkan settlement, so that they might be in agreement when the time came for them to pronounce upon it.

Russian press is almost all unanimous in demanding immediate Russian intervention against Turkey.

[34545] No. 617.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(Unnumbered.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 26, 1913.*

FOLLOWING is repetition of my telegram No. 358 which was sent from office here night of 22nd July. I am enquiring as to reason for non-transmission:—

"My telegrams Nos. 339 of 15th July and 355 of 21st July.

"Forcible reoccupation of Rodosto, fighting at Lule Burgas and Baba Eski, and capture of Bulgarian prisoners show that Turkey considers Treaty of London a torn up, and that she is at war with Bulgaria. Intention is to retake whole vilayet of Adrianople for which purpose there are some 250,000 troops under arms in European Turkey. Hadji Adil Bey, ex Minister of the Interior, has been appointed Vali of Adrianople, showing that occupation is to be permanent.

"Turks rely on Bulgarian atrocity campaign, which is being vigorously prosecuted to enlist European sympathy. Whatever Bulgarians may have been guilty of against Greeks in Macedonia, and though they are not of course guiltless in Thrace, there is very great wilful misrepresentation of their misconduct here. During severe winter Bulgarians destroyed for fuel wooden houses deserted by Moslem refugees, as did Turks in Adrianople, but there is little, if any, evidence to support charges of recent excesses in Thrace. Œcumenical Patriarch has held Requiem Mass for dead at Cavalla, and is reported to be alive.

"It is to be feared that refugees who are being sent back from Constantinople will be so inflamed by these stories of atrocities that they will take vengeance on Christian inhabitants. There is some reason to apprehend something of this kind has already happened at Malgara, near Rodosto. Patriarchs [group omitted], but Armenian delegate has not been allowed to proceed thither. Latest reports from Rodosto received by Armenian Patriarch show that state of affairs was rather worse than represented by embassy statements. Nineteen Armenians were killed and some seventy are missing."

(Sent to Sophia.)

[34529] No. 618.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 115.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July 26, 1913.*

MONTENEGRIN Prime Minister reports from Belgrade that Servian Government on strength of Roumanian assurances that Bulgaria will not recommence operations, agree to immediate cessation of hostilities.

Montenegrin Government concur.

I do not know what guarantees Bulgaria has offered.

[34514] No. 619

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

(No. 101.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 26, 1913.*

ADRIANOPLE.

I have seen Minister for Foreign Affairs. He does not like the Russian proposal for a collective naval demonstration by the Powers, but he has said that France will join provided that all the Powers take part in it knowing that Germany will refuse to participate. He objects to a naval demonstration by Russia, France, and England suggested by the Russian Government because it would put Triple *Entente* against Triple Alliance and so break up the concert of Europe, the only possible effective influence on the Porte without resorting to force. He strongly objects to isolated action by Russia spoken of by Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs as necessary in the event of naval demonstrations by other Powers not being adopted. He has instructed the French Ambassador at St. Petersburgh to intimate to the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs that the French Government cannot subscribe or in any way take any responsibility for such isolated action, which would create a very dangerous situation whether carried out in the vicinity of Constantinople or by an occupation of part of Asia Minor.

French Minister for Foreign Affairs has spoken very seriously to Italian Ambassador on the subject of the Ægean islands. He has told the Italian Ambassador that the French Government cannot accept retention by Italy of any islands in the Ægean Sea. He has reminded the Ambassador of the assurance given by the Italian Government to which the French Government expect them to fulfil, and has told him French Government will not agree to support a south eastern frontier for Albania which includes Koritza, unless the Italian Government undertake to hand over to Greece any islands in Italian occupation which the Powers may decide should be allotted to her. He has also taken account of a report that Russia Government will acquiesce in the retention of an island by Italy, directed French Ambassador at St. Petersburgh to inform the Russian Government of the attitude of the French Government in the matter.

34530] No. 620.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 26.)

[By Post.]

(No. 102.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 26, 1913.*

SOPHIA telegram No. 264 of 10th July and your telegram No. 271 of 11th July.

French Representative at Sophia instructed to make renewed representations respecting cigarette papers and excise and spirit duties.

[34487] No. 621

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax Ironside.

(No. 154.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 26, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 306 of 21st July.

I have supported at Athens Roumanian action for agreement to cease hostilities, and have also warned Turkish Government of consequences to Turkey that may be provoked by Turkish action, but we can not intervene by force to stop hostilities, and as the King of Bulgaria must be aware the reluctance of every Power concerned in the Balkan wars since the commencement of the war last year to accept advice from outside has been a most troublesome and recurring feature.

(Repeated to Bucharest No. 39 and Belgrade No. 143.)

[34709] No. 622

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 351.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 26, 1913.*

AT the meeting of the Ambassadors on 24th July I proposed that an identic communication should be made to the Ottoman Government to the effect that the Treaty of London must be respected, and especially the provisions relating to the Enos-Midia line. At the same time the Ottoman Government could be informed that in delimiting the frontier the Powers would be willing to take into consideration the conditions which Turkey might judge to be indispensable for assuring the security of that frontier.

This proposal, which the Ambassadors have referred to their Governments was made before we were aware that Turkish troops had actually invaded Bulgaria—a fact which has entirely changed the situation.

[34385 No. 623.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 352.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 26, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 363 of 25th July.

You should inform Grand Vizier that as long as Turkish operations were confined to Thrace it was the general view of the Powers that, though Enos-Midia line must be adhered to, certain reasonable modifications and conditions might be made in a sense favourable to Turkey. In this view I had readily concurred.

But Turkish invasion of Bulgaria and other incidents that appear to have accompanied it have entirely altered the situation. We cannot support Turkey against any consequences that her own action may bring upon her. These may be much more serious than anything that could come upon Turkey from British intervention. The policy we had desired to follow was one of support and consolidation of Turkish position after the Treaty of London was concluded. This policy, we hoped, would have been that of other Powers also, but Turkey has now risked everything by her violent action, and we cannot be expected to protect her from the consequences of it.

You can inform your French and Russian colleagues.

[34388. No. 624.

Sir Edward Grey to Earl Granville.

(No. 284.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 26, 1913.*

MY telegram to Constantinople No. 352 of 26th July.

You may inform Minister for Foreign Affairs, and point out that it is possible that the Turks are counting upon division amongst the Powers to protect them from any consequences whatever, and that it would be very desirable to remove this impression.

[34522] No. 625.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.)

(No. 364.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 26, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 363 of 25th July.

French Minister has received instructions to join in *démarche* to invite Porte to

I venture most respectfully to urge that such a communication will be looked on by Turks as *brutum fulmen*, and will convince Committee that, as local press is constantly repeating, Europe can only remain united to do nothing.

Measures are being constantly taken by Government to consolidate its position in conquered districts, and whatever action it is decided to take must be taken as soon as possible and be of decisive and tangible nature.

[34546] No. 626.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.)

(No. 365.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 26, 1913.*

RUSSIAN Ambassador is submitting to his Government following suggestion for bringing Turkey to observe Treaty of London:—

That Roumania, Greece, Servia and Bulgaria should agree to enforce jointly as against Turkey whatever arrangement they may come to as to division of territory ceded by Turkey by Treaty of London, and that Powers should inform Turkey that they are prepared to guarantee execution of such arrangement.

He thinks that it would be difficult for any Power to hang back and that proposed solution would have additional advantage of excluding Turkey from participation in approaching negotiations at Bucharest. He quite recognises difficulty of inducing Balkan States to adopt proposal but as his suggestion may be mooted by Russian Ambassador in London I think it well to inform you of it.

[34523] No. 627.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.

(No. 367.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 27, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 348 of 25th July.

Sir A. Block informs me that Italian moratority scheme has fallen through, but that French syndicate, supported by German and Austrian syndicates, proposes advance to Government nominally from cash balances of Bulgarian banks, but really from Italian moratority of £500,000 to be repaid out of revenues which debt encashes for Government account. Sir A. Block is pledged to operation which he describes as ordinary transaction and very profitable to bondholders, and asks to be informed within forty-eight hours whether your objections applies to this operation, in which case he would have to justify his change of attitude to Government and Council.

(Very Confidential.)

In foregoing letter of a somewhat acrimonious tone, Sir A. Block defends his action on grounds of necessity of debt keeping on good terms with Porte, and argues that it is to the interest of bondholders to assist Government in financial crisis like the present so as to avert crash political and financial. He is as you are aware, a firm believer in Committee.

[34547] No. 628.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.)

(No. 121.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 27, 1913.*

I ASKED Secretary-General, who returned last evening from a visit to the Minister for Foreign Affairs at baths, whether Italian Government had adopted any conclusion as to their attitude in view of continued Turkish advance to and beyond Adrianople. He said that, in discussing the matter with his Excellency, they had not yet contemplated anything beyond suggestion put forward at the Ambassadors' meeting in London. From the information they had received, presumably from their partners in Triple Alliance, he did not think there would be unanimity among the Powers in favour of coercive action.

Government at Constantinople had evidently no control over military party.

[34531] No. 629.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.)

(No. 122.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 27, 1913.*

SECRETARY-GENERAL tells me that Italian Foreign Office has information that Servia would, in the settlement with Bulgaria, endeavour to obtain a line of passage to and a port on the Ægean. I asked him if he meant Cavalla. He said he had no information as to details.

[34539] No. 630.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.)

(No. 123.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 27, 1913.*

YOUR circular telegram of 25th July.

I have communicated substance to the Secretary General, who seemed disappointed at the prospect of southern frontier of Albania remaining undecided by the Powers and rather demurred at Italy's being made responsible through her reservation of question of islands. He pointed out that no reference was made to the Treaty of Lausanne. I replied that those treaty obligations had not prevented eventual transfer of the islands to Greece being contemplated as set off against her withdrawing from territories claimed by Italy and Austria for Albania. He objected that recent developments in Balkans had since created a new situation, and suggested that sanction of the Greek extension on the Ægean mainland might constitute the compensation. This I argued was not analogous as the extension on the mainland would now involve diminution of Bulgarian territory, not of Turkish which had formed basis of compromise. He contended that Turkey claimed with reason that the surrender of islands near the Asiatic shore would endanger future status of Asia Minor. This argument had, I reminded him, been urged and abandoned when the question arose of providing inducement to Greece to withdraw from Corfu Channel and Koritza. He asked why should not other islands actually occupied by the Greeks, excluding those held by Italy, be utilised as compensation for withdrawal from Southern Albania. I replied that it was Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs who had from the first refused to regard islands as two separate groups, and insisted that they should be discussed as a whole, to which he rejoined that situation had been changed by recent events. He emphatically repeated that Italy did not contemplate retaining any island, and maintained that Greece would not incur the risk of restoration to Turkey as she felt sure of keeping them in the long run. It was France which, for her own ends, was urging their immediate transfer to Greece. I pressed him to explain what points Turkey could be regarded as not having yet fulfilled her obligations under the Lausanne Treaty, and his replies were evasive. It seems clear, however, that Italy fears and will oppose a great aggrandisement of Greece under the ægis of France, and will consequently profess profound interest in future of Turkish Empire.

[34532] No. 631.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey. (Received July 27.)

(No. 124.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 27, 1913.*

FRENCH Chargé d'Affaires informs me that about a week ago Italian representative at Athens again discussed question of transfer of the islands on condition that Astypalæa was excepted.

Information reached him from Russian source, and in view of present attitude of Italy with regard to islands must, I think, be a belated repetition of information supplied by Sir F. Elliot more than a month ago.

[34540] No. 632

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.)

No. 120.)
(Telegraphic.) *Berlin, July 27, 1913.*

AUSTRIAN Ambassador told French Ambassador and me this morning that he had just learnt from Vienna that Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs was proposing in London and Paris a joint action at Constantinople, Belgrade, and Athens; he did not know exact nature of proposed action, but it was obviously to insist on Turkey withdrawing her troops and for Greece and Servia agreeing to an immediate armistice. French Ambassador asked whether proposal was that Russia, France, and England should act alone together and pointed out that such a course would confirm belief at Constantinople that Powers were divided. Austrian Ambassador said he could not answer. Germany and Italy, but that his Government was quite ready to join. French Ambassador then remarked that if pressure was exerted at Athens and Belgrade similar steps ought to be taken at Sophia and also at Bucharest.

French Ambassador has since read me a telegram which he is addressing to his Government regarding conversation with Austrian Ambassador, and pointing out danger that if we take any action at Athens and Belgrade and not at Sophia, and particularly at Germany does not join such action the latter Power who is, he is convinced, beginning to show great sympathy and friendliness towards Greece and Roumania, will be able to point to unfriendly attitude of Triple *Entente* as compared with her own sympathetic attitude.

French Ambassador also told me of a conversation he had had yesterday with Roumanian and Greek representatives together in which Roumanian Minister had denied categorically truth of newspaper stories of differences between Roumania and Allies, and had declared that Roumania was just as determined as others not to conclude an armistice with at present preliminaries owing to untrustworthiness of Bulgaria and he had been much more excited and violent than Greek Chargé d'Affaires in his utter condemnation of Bulgarians.

[34526] No. 633.

Sir H. Rax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.)

No. 324.)
(Telegraphic.) *Decode.* *Sophia, July 27, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from consular agent at Bourgas:—

Russian man-of-war "Kubanetz" arrived to check panic of population in consequence of Turks' advance.

[34521] No. 634.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 27.)

No. 145.)
(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Bucharest, July 27, 1913.*

BULGARIAN plenipotentiaries arrived this morning.

[34658] No. 635

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 188.)
Sir, *Posillipo, July 20, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who is in charge of the department during the absence of his Minister at

Fiuggi, read to me this morning a report which he had received from the Italian consul-general at Salonica who had been directed to go to Serres and enquire into the reported Bulgarian aggression on the Italian vice-consulate in that town. The report was long and full of detail, and, I regret to say, fully confirmed the stories of the Bulgarian excesses which have been officially denounced by the Greek Government. The principal points which I have retained in my memory are as follows:

He stated the Bulgarian evacuation of Serres took place on the 5th July. Four days earlier, on the receipt of the news of the Greek successes, forty-two Greek notables were arrested. Of these, thirty-seven were eventually released, the five others, including a branch manager employed by the Ottoman Bank, were carried off with the departing troops and later cruelly massacred. After the evacuation, which was accompanied by the pillage of stores, the townsmen of Serres organised a sort of local militia for protection against irregulars. The Bulgarian troops then surrounded, and on the 11th bombarded the town after which they entered it and, having completed the pillage, set fire to it in many directions with petroleum and other inflammable materials. The Italian vice-consul, Greek by nationality, was ordered to surrender some hundreds of refugees who had sought asylum with him, and on his refusal was made a prisoner and was only eventually released on payment of ransom. The Hugs were destroyed or damaged. The same procedure was followed at the Austrian vice-consulate where after Greeks had taken refuge a list was taken of those consulate was destroyed. Some 4,000 out of 5,000 houses in the town were burnt and only three out of some seventy or eighty Greek churches were left standing. The outrages and the work of destruction were carried out by Bulgarian regulars and their officers, among whom he was sure they were incited by the komitajis. The consul-general also referred to evidence that orders had been received from headquarters that Serres was to be destroyed when evacuated. At Doxat 600 Greeks were massacred and the women violated, at another village, the name of which I cannot remember, eighty, the pappas and the village having his eyes put out and his hands cut off by a Bulgarian officer. The number of Greeks who perished at Serres was not mentioned in the report, but the damage done at this once flourishing town, which had from 30,000 to 40,000 inhabitants, was estimated at 1,500,000*l*.

There were many more details which I was not able to carry away, assuming to a hasty reading of the report, but I have little doubt, should it be desired that the Foreign Department would allow me to take a copy of the report.

The aggression on the Italian vice-consulate formed the subject of official representations. The consul-general gave the details which I have reported as ascertained facts, but I did not gather how he had obtained the information which his own observations had not supplied. It is to be presumed that was derived from Greek sources.

On the other hand the Bulgarian Minister who came to see me in the afternoon, also spontaneously referred to the charges made by the Greek Government. He argued that the evacuation of Serres was part of a strategic plan, and that the Bulgarians had only left the town with the full intention of reoccupying it. It was, therefore, not conceivable that the regular army would have deliberately destroyed a town which they at that time regarded as destined to be incorporated in the new Bulgaria. Nothing, he said, would ever convince him that Bulgarian regular troops would have committed aggressions on consular officers. Their sense of discipline and respect for foreign authorities was much too strong. He was prepared to admit that the komitajis might have committed grave excesses and have put to death individuals whom they considered responsible for Greek propaganda at Serres, but he warmly repudiated the charge that Bulgarian regulars were involved in these acts.

In any case the destruction of some two-thirds of the town, of which the Italian consul general was an eye-witness, appears to be beyond dispute, and it therefore follows that the Greek Chargé d'Affaires did not exaggerate when he informed me that 20,000 of the inhabitants had been rendered roofless and destitute, and that it was inconceivable that they should ever now be handed over to the authors of their misery.

I have, &c.
RENNELL RODD.

[34556] No. 636.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 189.)

Sir, *Posilipo, July 21, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the Bulgarian Minister, the presumed reasons for whose departure I announced in my despatch No. 141 of the 3rd June, returned to Rome some days ago and called upon me this afternoon. He told me that it was perfectly true that he had been recalled to Sofia with the idea of his undertaking the Ministry for Foreign Affairs if a coalition Ministry had been found feasible, but the combination failed, and therefore he had returned to his post.

Certain observations of his may not be without interest, especially as he has just returned from his country at such a moment of crisis. He attributed the disasters of Bulgaria in the first degree to M. Daneff, who had accumulatively procrastinated in dealing with Roumania, and in arranging for the withdrawal of Bulgarian troops from the territories left to Turkey, and had been entirely guided by his Russian proclivities. In the second place there had been a want of firmness on the part of Russia at the crucial moment. The military attachés of Bulgaria were, in the main, due to M. Daneff having vetoed the Bulgarian attacks which were advantageous at such a moment when there were very few Servian troops opposed to them. He had recalled them, disregarding their unanimous military opinion, at the bidding of Russia, and trusting in her ability to restrain Roumania and to compel the Servians to desist from hostilities. The original attack, which he practically admitted was instituted by Bulgaria, was not, and was never meant to be, a general attack. It was a local measure provoked by the Servians, who were fortifying positions against the Bulgarians.

When I observed that it was to be hoped that after the preliminaries of peace had been arranged with Turkey the Balkan States had not left the settlement entirely in the hands of the Powers, M. Rizof said that it would have been best to leave the settlement to the latter, but that their treaty with Servia specifically provided for the arbitration of the Emperor of Russia, and they looked to that as the proper solution. The territorial questions with Greece would have been a matter for the Powers to arrange. Then arose the question of whether, as Servia contended, the Russian arbitration should deal with the territorial distribution on general equitable lines, or only, as Bulgaria contended, as the interpretator of the treaty with Servia. And here it was, he thought, Russia had shown a want of firmness. No doubt the task was not an easy one, and the Emperor was probably disposed to alienate either of the Slav States by a decision unpalatable to one or to both, but if Russia had taken a strong line, and claimed the obligation to arbitrate according to the treaty, either Sofia would have had to submit. Precious time was lost, and the attitude of the Servian army at one point became so provocative that Bulgaria was compelled to act. He attributed the rash act very largely to the influence of Monsieur Hartwig at Belgrade. It was he that had dogged the Servians on their adhesion to independency of St. Petersburgh. When it became necessary to persuade Servia to renounce a port on the Adriatic in order to avoid the danger of war between Austria and Russia, M. de Hartwig had promised Servia compensations in Macedonia which she had never before contemplated claiming. He had even gone to Uskub and had convinced the local populations that their cessation to Servia was assured. He had intrigued at St. Petersburgh through the Montenegrin and Servian Grand Duchesses and other agents at the Imperial Court unknown to M. Sazonof, and the result was that the Servians were convinced that any pretensions put forward by them were sure to receive Russian support. I asked him where the interests of Montenegro came in in this combination. M. Rizof, whose wife is a Montenegrin, and who has spent many years at Cettinje, said that the future union of Servia and Montenegro was only a matter of time, and he himself thought it a very short time. The King of Montenegro felt that if he had not joined Servia at the present moment he would have compromised his future position with the whole Servian race in the event of a Servian success. If Servia were defeated it might mean the end of the Karageorgevitch dynasty, and from his having stood by her the reversion might come to his, the rival dynasty. The movement for union was ripe both in Servia and Montenegro, and one or the other dynasty would have to go under. The Customs Union would follow soon after the conclusion of peace, and Servia would get to the Adriatic all the same through Montenegrin ports.

I observed that all this was a hypothesis which left Austria out of count. Did he suppose that Austria would ever agree to such an union? M. Rizof said that if the

Servians acquired a large portion of Macedonia they counted on being strong enough, after a few years of development, to defy Austria, and then the whole southern Slav question might be raised.

M. Rizof expressed the opinion that Roumania would not press his country too far, and would be content with the Turtuka-Balchitch line. It would not be in Roumania's interest to aggrandise Servia too greatly, or to create an irreconcilable situation with Bulgaria, with whom she had never before been at war. Bulgaria was at present overmatched by the combination of forces and the mistakes of her statesmen, but she would recover, and there would never be peace in the Balkans if she were too harshly treated now.

The peasantry had not greatly suffered. The small traders no doubt, would be in a precarious situation, but Bulgaria would raise a loan when peace was re-established, and the peasant would be compensated for the requisitions on his live stock, which he had not had to keep through the winter. The harvest promised to be the best for some twenty-five years, and, as the farmer always kept half his stock in reserve he was not yet in difficulties.

A curious point of detail which M. Rizof mentioned was that since the war began 80 per cent. of the children born had been males. There was generally a slight excess in the proportion of male-two to forty-eight, but the present excess was new to experience. A similar phenomenon was, I have been informed in Paraguay, after the devastating war which followed the death of Lopez in 1870 after a certain proportion of the male population had been killed.

I have, &c.
RENNELL ROD.

[34641] No. 637.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 74.)

Sir, *Bucharest, July 22, 1913.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 130 of to-day, I have the honour to report that the Minister for Foreign Affairs told me this afternoon, at his weekly diplomatic reception, that, in answer to the overtures made by the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs as reported in my telegram No. 123 of the 21st instant, he had expressed the readiness of the Roumanian Government to negotiate, and had informed M. Ghenadief of the procedure which he had proposed at Athens and Belgrade, viz. that delegates of the five belligerents should negotiate an armistice at Nish, and that the peace negotiations should take place here. M. Maximescu had also informed M. Ghenadief that as regards certain points is already admitted: (1) a frontier running from some kilometres west of Dedeagatch passing south of Ikidjik to a point some kilometres south of Belitchka; (2) rights of the Koutzo-Vlachs in Bulgarian territory as defined in the protocol of St. Petersburgh; and (3) the razing of any fortifications there may be within a certain radius of Rustchuk, Silistria and Baltchik.

This categorical statement of Roumanian demands to the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs would seem to show that although Roumania is in favour of the signature of an armistice at Nish before the peace negotiations in Bucharest, she is trying to get the satisfaction of her own demands at least assured before the formal cessation of hostilities.

Presumably the Bulgarian Government will make no difficulty about the two first points. Bulgaria has already, both through the intermediary of Russia on the 1st instant and through that of the Italian Minister on the 21st instant, offered a frontier from Turtukai to Baltchik, and the second point, the rights of the Koutzo-Vlachs, is the declaration of the protocol of St. Petersburgh. But Roumania's third demand, involving so great an extension of the principle of the uniform belt zone laid down in the St. Petersburgh protocol, is pretty sure to be resisted, and it is to be expected that the Roumanian Government will not insist on its being conceded before signing an armistice.

I have, &c.
G. BARCLAY.

[34059] No. 638.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 165.)

Sir, *Athens, July 22, 1913.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 161 of the 14th instant, I have the honour to report that I have received protests against the barbarities committed by the Bulgarians in Macedonia and Thrace, mostly signed by Mussulman as well as Christian delegates, from public meetings at Argyrocastro, Margariti, Metsovo, Paramythia, Parga, Philiatai, Philippiada, Preveti, Santi Quaranta, Tepeleni and Volena by telegraph, as well as from Corfu and Nauplia by post.

It will be noticed that, with the exception of the two last, the protests all come from places whose ultimate inclusion in Greece is not yet certain, and may therefore have been dictated as much by self-interest as by humanity.

Captain Cavalide, R.N., of the naval mission who has visited Doxato has told me what he saw there with his own eyes, but I prefer to leave the description of it to the newspaper correspondents who cannot, however sensational, exceed the horror of his simple narrative.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT

[34608] No. 639.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 228.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, July 23, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of a despatch which has been addressed to me by Commander Grenfell, Naval Attaché to this Embassy, reporting that a Bulgarian squadron which recently arrived at Sebastopol, has been disarmed and interned by the Russian authorities.

I have, &c.
GEORGE W. BUCHANAN

Enclosure in No. 639.

Commander Grenfell to Sir G. Buchanan.

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, July 22, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency that the Bulgarian squadron, consisting of the small cruiser "Nadezhda," six first-class torpedo boats, and five transports, which recently arrived at Sebastopol to avoid capture by the Roumanians, has now been disarmed and interned at that port by the Russian authorities.

This accounts for the whole available naval forces of Bulgaria.

I have, &c.
H. GRENFELL, *Naval Attaché.*

[34610] No. 640.

Sir G. Buchanan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 230.)

Sir, *St. Petersburgh, July 23, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith the translation of a communiqué emanating from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and published in the press yesterday defining the present attitude of Russia towards the Balkan States and Turkey.

This communiqué has created a very favourable impression here both as regards the determination of Russia not to allow the excessive limitation of Bulgaria, and more especially as regards the warning to Turkey which it contains.

The "Novoe Vremya" asserts categorically that the Turks cannot be permitted to retain Adrianople or any of the territory reoccupied in defiance of the Treaty of London. Discussing the means to be employed to this end, the "Novoe Vremya" mentions the possible temporary occupation by Russia of Armenia until the Turks have once more retired behind the Enos-Midia line.

The "Vechernee Vremya" is even more bellicose and announces that either Europe must stop the Turks or else Russia must prepare for war. It states, moreover, that the dissolution of the Turkish Empire is impending, and that Russia must take steps to ensure the future of Constantinople.

Various journals, including the semi-official "Rossia," raise the question once more of the Straits and Egypt, and the "Novoe Vremya" confidently predicts the conversion, in the immediate future, of Egypt into a British Colony. As regards the Straits, it declares that the moment has now arrived when it is necessary to pass from words to acts.

I have, &c.
GEORGE W. BUCHANAN

Enclosure in No. 640.

Communiqué respecting "Russia and the Balkan question."

(Translation.)

"IN certain portions of the foreign press the line of conduct of Russia has been incorrectly interpreted, and it has been thought that the Imperial Government would 'intimidate' Greece at the same time as not permitting the extravagant claims of Servia as a slave State to be completely satisfied.

"These statements are not in accordance with facts.

"The representatives of the Imperial Government in Belgrade and Athens have been identical in character.

"Russia, moreover, and the other Powers, cannot allow an excessive reduction and humiliation of Bulgaria. Russia, following the other Powers, thinks the speediest possible establishment of peace in the Balkans is convinced that all the Great Powers hold similar views in this matter.

"This circumstance gives ground for the supposition that with reference to the intervention by Turkey also, the Powers will find ways and means to enforce respect of the decisions reached by them."

[34661] No. 641.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 192.)

Sir, *Posilipo, July 24, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a translation of the Italian Government's reply to the notes which I addressed to them in accordance with the instructions contained in your despatches Nos. 108 of the 17th April, and 144 of the 29th May, relative to the employment of the sum which has accumulated in the Bank of Crete through payments made on account of the 6 per cent. Cretan surtax.

It will be observed that the Italian Government are of opinion that a portion of this sum might be devoted to the payment of the indemnities to M. Zammis and the family of the murdered Mussulman guard, but not until all the Cretan questions, including that of the abolition of the Capitulations, have been settled.

As regards the redemption of the 1896 loan of 4,000,000 francs they incline to the opinion that it should form part of the Greek Public Debt, but on this point as well as on that of the indemnities, they reserve a definite decision till all the other interested Powers have communicated their views.

I have, &c.
RENNELL RODD

Enclosure in No. 641

Signor Scalea to Sir R. Rodd.

(Translation.)
(Confidential.)

M. l'Ambassadeur, *July* 22, 1913

I HAVE the honour to reply to your Excellency's notes of the 29th April and the 9th June last, on the subject of the eventual distribution of the sums derived from the Cretan 6 per cent. surtax, which have been deposited at the Bank of Crete in the names of the Austro-Hungarian, British, French, German, Italian and Russian Governments.

I desire, firstly, to call your Excellency's attention to the evident need of awaiting the settlement of all Cretan questions still proceeding, including that of the abolition of the Capitulations, before taking steps to devote such sums to the payment of the indemnities or for other objects.

With this reserve then I should, on the whole, incline to the opinion that at the proper time the part of the above-mentioned sums ought to be applied to the liquidation of the indemnity of £20,000 due for the High Commissioner M. Zaimis and of the indemnity of £7,500 due for the family of the Messrs. Hamilton and guard assassinated at Retchymo.

On the other hand it does not seem to be appropriate to assign the sums deposited at the Bank of Crete to the redemption of the loan of 4,000,000*l.* made by the Protecting Powers to the government of the island in 1898. It may, in fact, rather be assumed that these 4,000,000*l.* should go to form part of the Greek Public Debt.

Finally the Royal Government reserves all its decision in the matter till it has taken cognizance of the views of all the other interested Powers.

SCALEA.

[34706 No. 642

M. Coromilas to Sir A. Nicolson.—(Received July 28.)

Dear Sir Arthur Nicolson, *Greek Legation, London, July* 25, 1913.

I BEG to enclose the substance of two telegrams which I received from M. Coromilas to which I was referring when you did me the honour to receive me this afternoon, with reference to the question of Bulgaria's armistice only after the preliminaries of peace have been signed.

Yours sincerely,

J. GENNADIUS.

Enclosure in No. 642.

Substance of two Telegrams received by Greek Legation from M. Coromilas.

(1.)

IT is an entire mistake to interpret our wish to sign simultaneously the preliminaries of peace and the armistice as an intention to cherish Bulgaria. We have never harboured such a desire and you can declare this expressly. But our experience in the past is such as to make it clear that the conclusion of an armistice before arriving at an understanding in regard to the preliminaries would be dangerous in the highest degree. It would guarantee us against fresh surprises and their consequent grave complications. If we registered an armistice separately, we would be bound for our safety to impose very hard military conditions, which could scarcely be acceptable to Bulgaria, and we would only be wasting time. This being so, why not go immediately to Bucharest and there settle both matters? If during the last few days they have been marking time, it is because our view, that the most rapid means of reaching the end of the war is to discuss at once the preliminaries, has not been adopted. We had ordered M. Panas (late Greek Minister at Sophia) to proceed to Bucharest even before the receipt of the official invitation from Roumania. Can

anyone accuse us of creating difficulties when we manifest such readiness to negotiate peace? And let it be remarked that Bulgaria, who has hastened to send plenipotentiaries to Nish only for an armistice, has not yet shown any desire to appoint plenipotentiaries for Bucharest a fact which naturally increases our mistrust. M. Panas and an officer of the General Staff chosen by His Majesty King Constantine have already received orders to proceed to Bucharest there to negotiate instantly all questions, political and territorial, as well as military so that the armistice will follow automatically upon the agreement on the preliminaries. It is the most rational procedure, which would obviate—as it is the desire expressed on all sides—the delays and the differences inseparable from the adoption of two conferences discussing at the same time matters which are connected inseparably.

(2.)

M. Pashitch (the Servian Premier) has just communicated to us the following proposition, which tends to compromise the two opposed theses:

It would be possible to accept the two simultaneous conferences or congress on the understanding that they worked in parallel to each other, and that hostilities would not be suspended before the Bucharest conference required the conviction that Bulgaria was not earnest in her professed desire for peace.

We have no difficulty in accepting this proposal, since the armistice would not be signed at Nish before the preliminaries were determined at Bucharest.

[34791] No. 643.

Count Mensdorff to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

THE Austro-Hungarian Ambassador presents his compliments to the Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to inform him that the Austro-Hungarian delegate at the international commission of admirals at Scutari, Rear-Admiral Njegovan having to take up again the command of the squadron, Rear-Admiral Richard de Barry has been appointed in his place.

Austro-Hungarian Embassy,
London, July 26, 1913.

34707] No. 644.

M. Gennadius to Sir A. Nicolson.—Received July 28.

Dear Sir Arthur Nicolson, *Greek Embassy, London, July* 26, 1913.

I TELEGRAPHED to Athens the information which you were so good as to give me yesterday, when you did me the honour to receive me, to the effect that the Bulgarian Government proposed an enquiry on the atrocities with which their army is charged. This morning I have received the following telegram from M. Coromilas:

"Nous prions instamment le Gouvernement britannique de donner des ordres à son consul général à Salonique de se rendre sans retard sur les lieux afin de constater les mensonges télégraphiés de Sofia systématiquement dans un but facile à comprendre."

May we hope that His Majesty's consul-general will be instructed to make the investigation suggested?

Believe me, &c.
J. GENNADIUS.

[34708] No. 645

M. Gennadius to Sir A. Nicolson. (*Received July 28.*)

Dear Sir Arthur Nicolson, *Greek Legation, London, July 27, 1913.*

I HAVE just received telegram from M. Coromilas informing me that his Excellency M. Venizelos left Athens yesterday in the afternoon for Bucharest viâ Salonica. M. Panas, lately at Sophia as His Majesty's Minister to Bulgaria, has also left as second delegate with Professor N. Politis as adviser and Captains Exadaktylos and Pallis as technical delegates. Captain Rhangabé proceeds to Nisch to represent the Hellenic Government in the negotiations which will be carried on there as purely military matters.

I regret to have to communicate to you another telegram relating to the continuance of Bulgarian horrors.

Yours sincerely,
J. GENNADIUS.

Enclosure in No. 645.

Telegram from the Headquarters of the Greek Army.

Demotica, le 26 juillet 1913.

L'ARMEE bulgare, l'aile de Xanthi, que nous avons occupée hier, traina l'évêque, les quatre-vingts notables et l'archevêque de la ville, dont nous ignorons jusqu'à présent le sort. Son arrière-garde mit ensuite le feu à la prison où de nombreux prêtres grecs se trouvaient depuis longtemps enfermés. A l'aspect des premières flammes, par des efforts surhumains, les prisonniers brisant les portes, purent heureusement se sauver.

Les atrocités successives faites entrer au programme l'extermination de notre race par les Bulgares, nous mettra en état de ne plus pouvoir contenir les représailles de la part des populations grecques.

[35142] No. 646

Aide-mémoire communicated by Tewfik Pasha, July 28, 1913.

Il ne rentre nullement dans l'intention du Gouvernement Impérial d'aller à rencontre des décisions des Puissances et encore moins d'indisposer le Gouvernement Britannique, auquel il a prouvé largement dans ces derniers temps son ferme désir de consolider les liens d'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays en regardant dans le plus large esprit de conciliation les questions pendantes entre les deux Gouvernements.

Si le Gouvernement Impérial a décidé de reoccuper une partie du vilayet d'Adrianople, c'est que le Traité de Londres dont l'objectif principal était le rétablissement de la paix dans les Balkans demeura sans effet par l'explosion d'une guerre affreuse entre les alliés eux-mêmes et que les Bulgares, non contents d'avoir commis sur les musulmans de la Macédoine les atrocités sans nom, se livrent à une dévastation systématique dans les parties de la Thrace qu'ils furent obligés d'évacuer.

Le Gouvernement Impérial est persuadé que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, dans ses sentiments humanitaires, n'hésitera pas à reconnaître que le premier devoir qui s'imposait à la Turquie, dans ces circonstances, consistait à courir aussitôt au secours de milliers de familles en proie au feu et à la flamme. A ce devoir humanitaire venait se joindre aussi le souci légitime d'obtenir une frontière pouvant assurer la défense de la capitale. Dès le début des négociations de paix, ce besoin pour la Turquie a été reconnu par les Puissances elles-mêmes, mais l'intransigeance des Bulgares les décidèrent à adopter, dans l'intérêt du rétablissement de la paix, une ligne frontière ne répondant qu'imparfaitement à ce besoin.

Par conséquent, les Puissances qui avaient décidé solennellement dès le début des hostilités, le maintien du *statu quo* territorial de la Turquie, ne feront qu'un acte de justice vis-à-vis d'elle en lui reconnaissant au moins le droit d'obtenir une frontière assurant la sécurité de la capitale.

Ambassade Impériale ottomane, Londres,
le 28 juillet, 1913.

[34705] No. 647

Papers communicated by M. Gennadius, July 28, 1913.

(1)

The King of Greece to the King of Roumania.

Télégraphique.

JE remercie sincèrement votre Majesté de son télégramme au sujet des assurances d'amitié pour ma personne et de l'intérêt pour l'avenir de mon pays. J'assure votre Majesté que je désire tout aussi vivement qu'elle la fin de cette guerre et la cessation de l'effusion de sang. Je ne cherche nullement d'élargir l'équilibre dans la péninsule balkanique, ni la trop grande domination de la Bulgarie, seulement si je consentais maintenant à un armistice sans garanties réelles que la paix sera signée avec les avantages qui sont dus à mes alliés et à moi, après cette guerre sanglante et fratricide qui nous a été imposée par la Bulgarie je commettrais un crime contre mon pays. Je suis tout prêt d'envoyer des plénipotentiaires pour traiter immédiatement pour la paix. Si la Bulgarie accepte les conditions ci-dessus pour ces préliminaires, armistice s'ensuivra automatiquement. J'ai une trop haute opinion de la loyauté de la Bulgarie pour ne pas savoir qu'un armistice sans fixation préalable et assez longue des conditions paix nous préviendra de la plus grande partie des fruits de nos victoires. Je crois que notre allié le Roi de Serbie, à qui je communique ces télégrammes, voudra bien partager l'opinion que j'exprime à votre Majesté.

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(2)

M. Coromilas to M. Gennadius.

(Télégraphie.) *Athens, July 12 (25), 1913.*

The General Staff of our army telegraphs to me that the Bulgarians have carried away from Xanthi eighty Greek notables, whose fate remains unknown. We are also informed that the Bulgarian army, before having decamped, carried away, as hostages, 240 Greeks of that town, and 50 of Mikra, whereas 9 other notables were massacred.

I request you to protest energetically to his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs and declare that in presence of these fresh outrages the Greek Government is forced to entertain the greatest mistrust of the Bulgarians who are striving by every means to exterminate our brethren in Thrace.

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(3)

M. Coromilas to M. Gennadius.

(Telegraphic.) *Athens, July 12 (25), 1913.*

The rumour has been spread from certain capitals that in the action taken lately by Turkey in Thrace the Ottoman Porte found itself encouraged by the Greek Government and that even closer relations had been established between the two countries.

I request you to avail yourself at the earliest opportunity of contradicting categorically to his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs these rumours which are entire inventions.

Not only there exists no *entente* between the two countries, but, what is more, we view with increasing anxiety and concern the forward march of the Turkish army, rivalling as it does that of Bulgaria in repeating against the Greek population in Thrace, women and children included, the work of massacre, incendiarism, and extermination, which has moved the civilised world to indignation.

[34853] No. 648

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 28.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 28, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram dated the 27th instant relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 648.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney at Pola to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *July 27, 1913.*

AUSTRIAN Chargé d'Affaires received Austrian Admiral Njegovan. It is expected that Austrian troops landed at San Giovanni di Medua will reach Scutari to-day.

[34800 No. 649

Mr. Mallet to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 3 bis.)

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 27, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 362 of 25th July.

Following is substance of report dated 25th July from vice-consul at Rodosto.

Wherever Turkish army has passed, from Sivri to Kuchuk Burgas, and from Buair to Kirk Kilisse, Christian villages have been plundered and devastated with usual Turkish accompaniment of murder and rape.

Mixed Commission sent to Malgara and Hoskoi returned to Rodosto on 24th July, and Consular delegates report that Canea is totally destroyed, and only a few hundred women and children have reached Malgara. Thirty-six other villages also destroyed.

Vice-consul points out circumstances to show that excesses, which are being represented by Government press and telegraph agency as being work of Bulgarians, were really committed by Mussulmans, and that attempts are being made by authorities to extort false evidence from Christians against Bulgarians.

These excesses are partly work of returning refugees who have been succoured by European charity during the winter, but troops have participated largely.

Resignation of Ministry has nothing with Committee Government.

[34861] No. 650.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 121.)

(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 28, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 384 of 26th July.

Neither Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs nor the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was available yesterday. I have informed Under-Secretary of State the purport of your telegram No. 352 of 26th July to Constantinople. He said German Government are continually speaking to Turkish Government in the same sense exactly and he himself had spoken most strongly to the Turkish Ambassador. He quite agreed as to the necessity for removing any impression at Constantinople that division amongst the Powers, and he asked whether I had noticed article in the North German Gazette of which I have sent a translation by post to-day and which expresses in very firm language irrevocable character of Enos-Midia line.

Roumanian Minister whom I saw just before at the Foreign Office said that the negotiations would be very much hampered by Turkish proceedings, as Bulgaria would most justifiably want to know whether it could count on Enos-Midia line. He

suggested best means of coercing would be for Russia to occupy Midia and Austria either Dedeagatch or Enos. The declaration of their intention to do so would be probably enough, and they would not have actually to land. I asked Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs what he thought of this suggestion, and he seemed to think it a good one. I asked then whether the German Government could not propose it; he said they must think it over, but perhaps they could.

[34821] No. 651

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 125.)

(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 28, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 27th July.

Official communication to the press this morning states that rumour prevalent in Athens that Italy had offered to recognise the transfer of the Ægean islands to Greece on condition that Italy should retain Stampalia is altogether devoid of truth.

[34842] No. 652

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 116.)

(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July 28, 1913.*

MY immediately preceding telegram of 25th July.

In deference to views of Greek Government Servia and Montenegro will not agree to abandon hostilities until the conclusion of preliminaries of peace.

[34850] No. 653.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 117.)

(Telegraphic.) R. *Cettinje, July 28, 1913.*

FINANCIAL assistance.

Montenegrin Government beg me to convey to you their thanks for what you are doing for them and for interest taken in their country.

[34858] No. 654

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 325.)

(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 28, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 144 of 14th July.

Bulgarian Government state that slaughter of Greeks at Serres and Demir Hissar was due to their having risen and attacked Bulgarians under leadership of ecclesiastics, which entailed severe repression.

They have communicated to Legations here long lists of atrocities committed by Greeks and Servians, and also accuse Roumanian troops of rape.

From direct interrogation of refugees, His Majesty's Legation gather that Greek army with irregulars have systematically exterminated entire Bulgarian population, which was unable to escape in regions covered by their advance. Details given by survivors of butchery, violation, and mutilation are appalling. Even Koutzo-Vlachs villages were not spared.

French orphanage at Karagatch under French flag was destroyed and its inmates massacred including, it is feared, some of European sisters.

There has not been time as yet to investigate alleged Servian atrocities.

(Sent to Bucharest and Athens via Belgrade.)

[34859] No. 655.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 326.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 28, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 320 of 25th July.
General situation to-day is:

Roumanians have withdrawn their patrols from Sofia plain, but still hold Orkhanie. No news as to further advance of Ottoman troops, who had occupied Kazi Agatch, but stopped short of Yambol. Greeks, with whom severe fighting is reported since 24th July in Messta Valley, have received a serious check. Details not yet to hand.

Bulgarian and Servian armies have practically fought themselves to a standstill in main theatre. Cholera and a severe form of measles have broken out in both armies, and former is rapidly spreading, and has reached Sofia.

Sent to Constantinople, Belgrade, and Bucharest.

[34860] No. 656.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 28.)

No. 327.)
Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July 28, 1913.*

FOLLOWING from vice-consul at Varna:—

My telegram No. 24.

Roumanian soldiers continue to raid territory as yet not occupied by troops in department of Varna.

A deputation of peasants from surrounding villages yesterday attended prefect and afterwards the consulate complaining of rape, theft, destruction of property, and beatings by Roumanian soldiers. These accusations are probably somewhat exaggerated.

[34373] No. 657.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.**

(No. 293.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.*

BULGARIAN Government have officially demanded international enquiry to be conducted by representatives of Great Powers, into atrocities alleged to have been committed by Bulgarian troops, &c., over whole theatre of warlike operations.

Ascertain whether Government to which you are accredited have received similar communication, and, if so, what reply they propose to return to it.

Point out at the same time that charges of this kind have also been made against Greeks, Servians and Turks, who may all in turn demand similar enquiry.

(Repeated to Sofia, No. 155, for information only.)

[34523] No. 658.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 354.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 367 of 27th July. Financial help for Turkey.

As this is an ordinary transaction and profitable to bondholders, I do not think that His Majesty's Government should interfere, if the other Powers acquiesce.

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* Also to Sir G. Buchanan (No. 556), Earl Granville (No. 285), Sir F. Cartwright (No. 236), and Sir R. Rodd (No. 226).

[35253] No. 659.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 192.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.*

THE Italian Ambassador informed me to-day that, while the Marquis di San Giuliano admitted that at one time it had been contemplated that the Turkish islands in Italian occupation should be considered by the Powers in connection with the question of the boundary of Southern Albania, the change of circumstances since then made this now impossible. The fate of the islands was regulated by the Treaty of Lausanne. Though the Turks had withdrawn their battalion from Derna, they still had a battalion at Benghazi in Tripoli, and the conditions of the treaty were not fulfilled. The Marquis di San Giuliano approved a good deal of what the Italian Ambassador had said at the *réunion* the other day, to the effect that the disposal of the islands in Italian occupation might be useful as a lever in getting the Turks out of Adrianople.

I said that there was no change in the Italian attitude towards the islands. If they were regulated entirely by the Treaty of Lausanne, then they could not be used as a lever in connection with Adrianople; in fact, they could be so used only if it was admitted that the Great Powers were to decide later on, possibly after Italy had restored them to Turkey.

The Ambassador said that he was instructed to inform me most formally that Italy adhered to the proposition that no Great Power was to get anything for itself out of the present complications.

I said that I assumed that this meant that Italy would not keep any of the islands for herself.

He confirmed this interpretation.

He told me also that the Marquis di San Giuliano was most anxious to see the frontier of Albania settled, and hoped that it might be done by allowing Koritza and Stylos to go to Albania in return for the islands in Greek occupation, except Tenedos and Imbros, being given to Greece. He pressed me very much to say that I would secure a solution in this way.

I said that I could only say that I would make the best use I could of the information that he had given me. I was as anxious for a settlement as any one could be, but I was not very sanguine.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[34174] No. 660.

Sir Edward Grey to British Delegates at Financial Commission.

No. 9.)
Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a letter from the Eastern Telegraph Company (Limited),* forwarding twelve copies of certain concessions held by them from the Turkish and Greek Governments for cables landed in those countries.

These papers were received at this Office too late for presentation to the sub-committee of the Balkan Financial Commission appointed to deal with contracts and concessions held by foreign subjects and companies in the ceded territories before the interruption of the sittings of the commission. I presume, however, that the commission do not regard their enquiry into questions of this character as definitely closed, and that, when they resume their labours, further meetings of the sub-committee in question will take place, at which the case of the telegraph company can be considered.

I have accordingly to request you to take such steps as may be possible to support the claims of the company when the proper moment arrives.

A copy of the reply returned to the company is also enclosed †.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

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* No. 546. † No. 668.

[33774] No. 661.

Mr. Maxwell to Mr. Ramsay.

Dear Ramsay, *Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 10th July about the Cyprus tribute question, I send you copies of such further correspondence as has passed on the subject since then.*

We wrote, as you see, to the Colonial Office about it.

I note your request for a copy of the French memorandum in its final form.

I am, &c.
R. P. MAXWELL.

[33774] No. 662.

Mr. Maxwell to Sir P. Harvey.

Dear Harvey, *Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.*

RAMSAY passed on to us your letter of the 2nd July about the Cyprus tribute question.

Here is a copy of his letter and a note which we have made on your French memorandum.†

I also send a copy of a memorandum prepared here in 1896 on the point raised in the last two paragraphs of your letter to him‡ from which it appears that all the loans secured on the Egyptian tribute are on a footing of equality.

We thought it better, in the next place, to consult the Colonial Office, and I send you copies of our letter to them and of their reply.§

Finally, I send you your original memorandum back again.

The Treasury's suggestions might be met by the omission of the words "en 1880 ou plus tard lors de la liquidation" and the insertion of "dès 1879" between "prélever" and "le montant" on p. 2 (line 3). That of the Colonial Office might be embodied in a paragraph at the end of the memorandum.

Will you let us have copy of the memorandum in its final form officially?

I am, &c.
R. P. MAXWELL.

[34174] No. 663.

Foreign Office to Eastern Telegraph Company.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, forwarding copies of certain concessions held by your Company from the Turkish and Greek Governments for cables landed in those countries for presentation to the sub-committee of the Balkan Financial Commission appointed to consider questions of this nature.

I am to inform you, in reply, that these papers were received at this Office too late for presentation to the sub-committee before the interruption of the sittings of the commission.

Sir E. Grey presumes, however, that the commission do not regard their enquiry into questions of this character as definitely closed, and that when they resume their labours in the autumn, further meetings of the sub-committee will take place at which your Company's case and similar ones can be considered.

Sir E. Grey has accordingly forwarded these papers together with a copy of your letter to the British delegates on the commission, with instructions to take such steps as may be possible to support the claims of your company when the proper moment arrives.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

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* Mr. Oakes' memorandum, May 5, 1896; and Nos. 250 and 487; and to Sir P. Harvey, July 24, 1913.
† No. 275. ‡ Memorandum by Mr. Oakes, May 5, 1896. § Nos. 296 and 487.

[33995] No. 664.

Foreign Office to British Red Cross Society.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.*

I AM directed by Secretary Sir Edward Grey to inform you that, according to a telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Sophia, the hospital accommodation there is all occupied, medical aid is quite inadequate, thousands of sick and wounded are without shelter, and cholera has appeared.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

[35187] No. 665.

Minute by Sir A. Nicolson.

Sir E. Grey,

M. DE FLEURIAU was instructed to inform us that M. Pichon had told the French Ambassador at St. Petersburgh to state that it would be well if the Russian Government were to let it be known to the Powers that circumstances might arise which would oblige Russia to take some coercive measure of a hostile nature against Turkey if the latter's forces remained in Bulgaria, and also M. Pichon has asked M. Delcassé to intimate to M. Sazonof that it would be well if St. Petersburgh were to converse with Berlin on the subject.

A. N.

Foreign Office, July 28, 1913.

[34885] No. 666.

Count de Salis to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 44.)

Sir, *Cettinje, July 23, 1913.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 113 of to-day's date, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith copy of the note presented to the Montenegrin Government by the Austro-Hungarian Legation on the subject of the cessation of hostilities pending the negotiation of preliminaries of peace at Sinaia. The Austro-Hungarian Government state that they reserve to themselves the right of examining and approving these preliminaries.

I have, &c.
DE SALIS.

Enclosure in No. 666.

Note communicated to Montenegrin Government by Austro-Hungarian Legation at Cettinje.

LE Ministre de Bulgarie à Vienne a, d'ordre de son Gouvernement, communiqué à bien à son Excellence le Comte Berchtold que les délégués bulgares s'étaient rendus à Nich pour y négocier les bases d'un armistice. Les préliminaires de paix devraient être traités à Sinaia.

Comme ces dernières négociations occuperaient un certain laps de temps, il serait désirable de suspendre les hostilités jusqu'à la fin de ces négociations pour éviter les calamités inhérentes aux opérations de guerre.

Le Gouvernement bulgare prie, par conséquent, le Cabinet de Vienne de vouloir bien prêter son concours à ce que les hostilités soient suspendues jusqu'à ce terme. Par contre, la Bulgarie serait prête non seulement à quitter les armes, mais aussi à démobiliser sans retard pour donner une nouvelle preuve de sa loyauté.

Je suis chargé par mon Gouvernement de communiquer au Gouvernement Royal cette proposition bulgare et d'en recommander d'urgence l'acceptation.

Je suis en outre chargé de déclarer au Gouvernement Royal que l'Autriche-Hongrie se réserve d'examiner et d'approuver les préliminaires de paix à intervenir à Sinaia.

Cettigné, le 23 juillet, 1913.

[34868] No. 667.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 29.*)

(No. 398.)

Sir, *Paris, July 27, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith the accompanying despatch from Sir Paul Harvey, British delegate on the Balkan Financial Commission, relative to special claims laid by the Servian delegation before the Committee on claims to compensation arising out of the war.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
LANCELOT D. CARNEGIE.

Enclosure in No. 667.

Sir P. Harvey to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 29.*)

(No. 27.)

Sir, *Paris, July 27, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the Servian delegation has laid before the Committee of the Balkan Financial Commission appointed to deal with claims to compensation arising out of the war, a statement of various special claims relating to prisoners of war, and the seizure by the Turkish authorities of railway wagons, cannons, ammunition, &c. which came up for consideration at a recent meeting. As the claim will be embodied in the report of the Committee, which will shortly be laid before you, I need at present only refer to one point.

At the end of the statement the Servian delegation reserves the right of presenting subsequently a claim in respect of "l'indemnité et les dépenses résultant de l'occupation de l'Albanie, de son administration et de son abandon à la suite de la décision des Grandes Puissances."

The Austrian delegate objected to the above, that this particular Committee was appointed to consider "les réclamations que les États belligérants croiraient devoir produire, à titre de compensation pécuniaire, du fait des opérations de guerre."

The circumstances constituting the basis of the claim not falling within the above definition, the matter was not, in his opinion, within the competence of the Committee.

The Russian, Servian, and Montenegrin delegates contested this view, and alleged that the 6th article of the Preliminaries of Peace charged the Financial Committee with the duty of settling all "questions d'ordre financier résultant de l'état de guerre qui prend fin."

It would appear that the terms of article 6 of the Preliminaries of Peace are somewhat wider in their scope than those of the programme of the Balkan Financial Commission, submitted to, and approved by the Powers.

It was decided that the various delegations should consult their respective Governments on the point.

It will be observed that this claim for an indemnity does not necessarily involve a demand addressed to the Turkish Government. The indemnity, if granted, might be made a charge on the new Albanian State, following the precedent of article 22 of the Treaty of Berlin, which laid on the occupied territory the cost of the maintenance of the Russian force occupying Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia.

A claim similar to that made by the Servian delegation has also been made by the Montenegrin delegation in respect of Scutari, as reported in the despatch of the British delegates, No. 18, of the 1st July.

I have, &c.
H. P. HARVEY.

[34869] No. 668.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 29.*)

(No. 399.)

Sir, *Paris, July 27, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith the accompanying despatch from the British delegates on the International Commission on Balkan Financial Affairs, enclosing the *procès-verbaux* of the fourth and fifth meetings of the Commission.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador),
LANCELOT D. CARNEGIE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 668.

British Delegates to Balkan Financial Commission to Sir Edward Grey.

(No. 28.)

Sir, *Paris, July 27, 1913.*

WE have the honour to transmit herewith the *procès-verbaux* of the fourth and fifth meetings of the International Commission on Balkan Financial Affairs.

We have, &c.
LANCELOT D. CARNEGIE.
H. P. HARVEY.

Enclosure 2 in No. 668.

Procès-verbal of Fourth Meeting of Balkan Financial Commission, held June 30, 1913.

LA séance est ouverte à 3 heures 20 minutes du matin, sous la présidence de M. de Margerie.

Assistent à la réunion les délégués présents à la séance précédente.

Le procès-verbal de la séance du 16 juin est adopté.

Règlement.

M. le Président fait savoir que les délégations austro-hongroise et italienne lui ayant fait connaître que leurs Gouvernements les avaient autorisées à accepter définitivement l'article 2 du projet de règlement, il avait cru devoir convoquer la Commission plus tôt qu'il n'avait été décidé au cours de la séance du 16 juin.

M. de Margerie donne lecture de l'article, qui n'avait été que provisoirement adopté dans la séance précédente :—

"Article 2. Les décisions de la Commission sont prises, en séance plénière, à l'unanimité des voix des États représentés."

Cet article étant définitivement adopté, M. le Président soumet à l'approbation définitive de la Commission l'ensemble du projet de règlement, qui est adopté et sera annexé au présent procès-verbal.

Réunion des Comités.

M. le Président propose de fixer comme suit les dates et heures des réunions des trois comités actuellement constitués :—

Comité de la Dette : mardi matin à 9 heures, et mercredi soir à 4 heures ;
Comité des Concessions et Contrats : mardi soir à 4 heures, et jeudi matin à 9 heures ;
Comité des Réclamations pécuniaires des Belligérants : mercredi matin à 9 heures, et jeudi soir à 4 heures.

De cette façon, les comités pourront concentrer leurs travaux sur trois jours de la semaine, et il est donné satisfaction aux désirs exprimés par certains délégués qui auront quatre jours consécutifs de liberté par semaine.
Il est entendu toutefois que, lorsque besoin sera, la Commission se réunira de préférence en séance plénière le vendredi matin.

Les propositions de M. le Président sont adoptées.

L'ordre du jour étant épuisé, la séance est levée à 9 heures et demie.

Le Président,
P. DE MARGERIE.

Le Chef du Secrétariat,
HENRI PONSOT.

Annexe au Procès-verbal de la Quatrième Séance, le 20 juin, 1913.

Règlement des Travaux

Article 1er. La Commission, siégeant en réunion plénière, se compose des délégués diplomatiques et des délégués techniques de tous les Etats représentés.
Le programme de ses travaux est le suivant :—

1. Déterminer la part de la dette ottomane qui doit incomber aux Etats balkaniques en raison de leurs acquisitions territoriales.

2. Fixer les garanties et toutes autres dispositions d'ordre financier nécessaires au strict accomplissement des obligations qui seront ainsi assumées par les Etats balkaniques ;

3. Fixer les conditions auxquelles les Etats balkaniques seront subrogés dans les droits et charges de l'Empire ottoman à l'égard des particuliers ou sociétés concessionnaires d'entreprises ou bénéficiaires de contrats dans les territoires cédés.

4. Examiner les réclamations que les Etats belligérants croiraient devoir produire, à titre de compensation pécuniaire, du fait des opérations de guerre.

Art. 2. Les décisions de la Commission sont prises en séance plénière à l'unanimité des voix des États représentés.

Art. 3. Les propositions, amendements, motions ou vœux touchant les questions inscrites au programme de la Commission devront être rédigés par écrit, lus en séance par la délégation dont ils émanent, et remis au secrétariat, qui en assurera, dans le plus bref délai, l'impression et la distribution.
Aucun texte ne sera mis en discussion s'il n'a été préalablement distribué aux délégués.
Sauf assentiment unanime des délégués présents, les propositions, amendements, motions ou vœux présentés au cours d'une séance ne pourront être mis en discussion qu'à la séance suivante.

Art. 4. La Commission se constituera en comités techniques pour examiner chaque point du programme mentionné à l'article 1er.
Ces comités seront désignés sous les titres abrégés suivants :—

1. Comité de la Dette.
2. Comité des Garanties.
3. Comité des Concessions et Contrats.
4. Comité des Réclamations pécuniaires des Belligérants.

Tous les délégués pourront assister aux séances de comité, mais le droit de prendre part aux débats sera réservé dans chaque comité aux membres spécialement désignés pour participer à ses travaux.
Deux délégués seulement peuvent être désignés à cet effet pour chaque délégation.

Ces désignations, ainsi que les modifications qui pourront intervenir à cet égard en cours de session, seront portées en temps opportun à la connaissance du secrétariat.
Chaque comité désignera, au moment de sa constitution, son vice-président et son rapporteur.
Le vice-président est désigné pour assumer la direction des travaux du comité et pour le présider en l'absence du président de la Commission.
Le rapporteur aura pour mission de rendre compte, en réunion plénière, des résultats de l'examen auquel il aura été procédé en comité technique. Son rapport, approuvé par le comité sur épreuve, sera ensuite distribué à tous les délégués avant sa discussion en réunion plénière.

Art. 5. Les comités se réuniront sur la convocation du bureau composé, à cet effet, du président de la Commission assisté des vice-présidents de comité.
La date et la fréquence de leurs réunions seront arrêtées suivant les besoins, mais de manière à éviter que deux comités siègent simultanément.
Le comité des garanties ne sera convoqué que lorsque le bureau appréciera que les travaux des autres comités sont assez avancés pour permettre un examen utile de la question soumise à ses délibérations.

Art. 6. La Commission désignera parmi ses membres, lorsqu'elle le jugera utile, un comité de rédaction chargé de préparer le texte des résolutions auxquelles elle se sera arrêtée.

Art. 7. Les procès-verbaux ou protocoles des réunions plénières de la Commission seront rédigés sous forme d'un résumé succinct des discussions. Cependant, toute déclaration faite en séance et remise par écrit au secrétariat sera insérée *in extenso*.
Le secrétariat assurera, dans le plus bref délai, l'impression et la distribution aux délégués des épreuves des procès-verbaux et documents annexés.
Chaque délégation voudra bien remettre, lors de la séance qui suivra leur distribution, lesdites épreuves avec la mention des corrections de forme qui devraient être apportées aux déclarations de ses membres. Toute modification de fond du procès-verbal devra être demandée en séance. Une seconde épreuve sera distribuée s'il y a lieu.
Les procès-verbaux ainsi rectifiés seront considérés comme adoptés et il n'en sera donné lecture en séance que si l'une des délégations en exprime le désir.

Art. 8. Il ne sera pas rédigé de procès-verbal officiel des réunions des comités techniques. Toutefois un résumé des délibérations sera préparé et remis aux délégués pour la commodité des discussions.
Ce résumé autographié n'est pas destiné à une publication ultérieure.

Art. 9. Les délibérations de la Commission, ainsi que les résultats de ses travaux ne pourront être divulgués et les documents communiqués à ses membres ne pourront être publiés que du consentement de tous les Etats représentés.
Toutefois, après chaque réunion plénière, le secrétariat établira un compte rendu sommaire qui sera communiqué à la presse avec l'autorisation du président.

Enclosure 3 in No. 608.

Procès-verbal of Fifth Meeting of Balkan Financial Commission, held July 18, 1913.

LA séance est ouverte à 11 heures 35 minutes, sous la présidence de M. de Margerie.

Assistent à la réunion les délégués présents à la dernière séance à l'exception de MM. Stancoff (Bulgarie), Romanos (Grèce), Markovitch (Serbie).

Le procès-verbal de la séance du 20 juin, ne donnant lieu à aucune observation, est adopté.

Au moment où la Commission se réunit à nouveau en séance plénière après un mois de séances en comités, M. le Président tient à rendre compte en quelques mots des résultats des travaux qui leur avaient été confiés.
Le Comité de la Dette a examiné en détail les éléments constitutifs de la Dette publique de l'Empire ottoman, ainsi que ses gages et la répercussion que ne pouvait manquer d'avoir sur eux les cessions territoriales inscrites dans le Traité de Londres. Cette étude a soulevé des questions complexes et délicates, notamment celle de la base —proportionnalité des revenus ou spécialisation des gages—sur laquelle peut être

calculée la part à assumer par un Etat concessionnaire de territoires dans la dette publique de l'Etat cédant. Un exposé détaillé des résultats de cette étude sera préparé par Sir Paul Harvey (Grande-Bretagne), rapporteur de ce comité, et distribué en épreuve à chacun des délégués.

Le comité des concessions et contrats, en vue d'élaborer les règles générales de la subrogation des Etats cessionnaires dans les droits et charges de l'Empire ottoman vis-à-vis des concessionnaires et des bénéficiaires des contrats—subrogation qui est la base même de ses travaux—a procédé à l'étude minutieuse des espèces auxquelles ces règles générales devront s'appliquer. Cette étude est aujourd'hui terminée en ce qui concerne les concessions qui se trouvent situées dans un seul des États annexants, et le comité sera en mesure de soumettre à la commission des projets pour le règlement de ces questions. L'exposé déjà préparé par M. Adler (Autriche-Hongrie), rapporteur de ce comité sera incessamment transmis en épreuve aux délégués.

Enfin, le Comité des Réclamations pécuniaires des belligérants a étudié les réclamations d'ordre divers présentées par les États balkaniques du fait des opérations de guerre et pouvant, dans leur pensée, donner lieu à compensation. S'inspirant du plus louable esprit d'impartialité et d'équité, les délégations intéressées au règlement des dommages causés aux navires grecs retenus à Constantinople, à la veille de la guerre, ont décidé de confier l'examen de cette réclamation à un tribunal arbitral.

M. Luquet (France), chargé de présenter à la Commission le rapport provisoire de ce comité remettra incessamment son travail.

M. le Président, à la suite de ce rappel sommaire des travaux poursuivis au cours de vingt-sept séances, dont treize ont été consacrées à la dette, et sept à chacun des deux autres comités, tient à bien préciser que les délibérations des comités ont eu un caractère essentiellement technique et préparatoire. La Commission plénière étant seule compétente pour étudier les questions de principe et en proposer la solution aux différents Gouvernements, ces questions au cours de cet examen technique, ont été formellement réservées. Ce n'est qu'à l'automne, lorsque la commission plénière se réunira à nouveau que les délégations seront appelées à prendre position à cet égard, et pourront le faire en pleine liberté. (Assentiment.)

M. le Président constate, et la Commission est unanime pour approuver ses vues, qu'ainsi se trouve close la première phase des travaux confiés à la Commission financière, l'enquête préliminaire est achevée.

Dans ces conditions, il a paru utile de suspendre les séances pendant quelques semaines. Beaucoup de questions ont été élucidées qui méritent quelque réflexion, la consultation des Gouvernements par les diverses délégations et peut-être des échanges de vues entre les Gouvernements eux-mêmes. C'est pourquoi les différents comités ont tenu à préparer dès à présent un état écrit de leurs travaux, qui formeront une base certaine et uniforme pour des conversations éventuelles entre les différents Gouvernements, dans l'intervalle des deux sessions de la Commission. (Assentiment.)

M. le Président propose que la prochaine réunion de la Commission en séance plénière ait lieu le mardi 30 septembre à 10 heures du matin. (Assentiment.)

M. le Président remarque que, dans l'intervalle, le secrétariat français, sous la direction de M. Ponsot, demeurera un organe permanent d'informations et un intermédiaire constant pour la communication de tous documents.

M. le Président propose que l'envoi des documents destinés aux délégués soit assuré, à partir d'aujourd'hui, par l'entremise des missions diplomatiques, ambassades et légations des États représentés à la Commission, à qui ils seront adressés par le secrétariat. (Assentiment.)

C'est donc par cette voie que parviendront aux délégués les rapports des divers comités, les comptes rendus des dernières séances des comités et le procès-verbal de la présente séance plénière.

Certains de ces documents, notamment les rapports, devant être approuvés par les différentes délégations, M. le Président propose à la Commission de décider que dans un délai de quinze jours à partir de la date à laquelle ces documents seront remis aux missions diplomatiques à Paris, les observations nécessaires soient faites et adressées par les délégués au secrétariat français. Passé ce délai, les documents communiqués seraient considérés comme approuvés.

Sur la proposition de M. Valaoritis (Grèce) ce délai, de l'assentiment unanime de la Commission, est porté à vingt jours.

L'ordre du jour étant épuisé, M. le Président après avoir remercié les différentes délégations de l'obligeance qu'elles ont mise dans la poursuite de ces travaux, tient à adresser les remerciements tout spéciaux de la Commission aux vice-présidents et aux rapporteurs des trois comités, pour leur concours si éclairé et si utile.

M. le Baron de Lancken-Wakenitz (Allemagne) désire être l'interprète de tous les délégués en adressant à M. de Margerie leurs très sincères remerciements pour la bonne grâce, la compétence et l'habileté qu'il a apportées dans la direction des travaux de la Commission financière.

M. Sévastopoulo (Russie) et *M. Valaoritis* (Grèce) s'associent aux paroles du premier délégué d'Allemagne à l'adresse de M. de Margerie et du secrétariat.

La séance est levée à midi 10 minutes.

Le Président,
PIERRE MARGERIE.

Le Chef du Secrétariat,
HENRI PONSOT.

[34870] No. 669.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 400.)
Sir, *Paris, July 27, 1913.*

WITH reference to your despatch No. 150 of the 17th instant, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the accompanying despatch from the British delegates on the International Commission on Balkan Financial Affairs regarding the possibility of reserving the means for the guarantee by Turkey of future loans for the irrigation of Mesopotamia.

I have, &c.
(For the Ambassador).
LANCELOT D. CARNEGIE.

Enclosure in No. 669.

British Delegates on the Balkan Financial Commission to Sir Edward Grey.

(No. 29.)
Sir, *Paris, July 27, 1913.*

WE have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 8 of the 17th July regarding the possibility of arranging, in the course of the proceedings of the Financial Commission in Paris, that means shall be reserved for the guarantee by Turkey of future loans for the irrigation of Mesopotamia.

Such a question does not fall within the scope of the Financial Commission as defined in the programme approved by the Powers. The question of the various loans and guarantees connected with the Bagdad Railway have come before the commission because the guarantees in question exist already and are based in a large measure on revenues drawn from the European provinces of Turkey. There exist, in other words, at this moment certain obligations of the Turkish Government, in connection with this railway, for which provision must be made in the new circumstances resulting from the cession of the European provinces.

The situation as regards the irrigation of Mesopotamia is different. The most that can be hoped for in this connection is that the general financial arrangements to be made will be such as will leave Turkey in possession of adequate resources for her general development, which would naturally include the execution of Sir William Willcocks's important project.

We are, &c.
LANCELOT D. CARNEGIE.
H. P. HARVEY.

[34958] No. 670.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 29.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 28, 1913.*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram dated the 28th instant relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 670

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty

(Telegraphic.) *July 28, 1913.*

THE most unsettled tribes are the Mahsori, Sala, Sos, Merdita. Thinking a personal visit would be of value I propose, if no objection is seen, to visit them shortly being absent about a week from Scutari.

[34957] No. 671

Note communicated by Austro-Hungarian Embassy, July 29, 1913.

LE consulat Impérial et Royal de Scutari rapporte qu'un nommé Kol Schalabig adressa une lettre à Sir Cecil Burney dans laquelle il lui demandait de déléguer un officier anglais à Schala. Le consulat apprend que Sir Cecil Burney aurait répondu à cette lettre en promettant aux chefs de la Petite Malza la nomination d'un Gouverneur anglais et en déclarant, en même temps, son intention d'employer la gendarmerie locale de Scutari (formée par le conseil des amiraux au delà de la zone de 10 kilom.

Les chefs de la Petite Malzia répondirent à l'amiral anglais qu'ils puniraient, d'après leurs lois, l'individu qui avait prétendu être un délégué de Schala, et qu'ils n'accepteraient un Gouverneur qu'après la nomination du Prince, et que ce Gouverneur devrait être un Albanais ou un personnage proposé par l'Autriche-Hongrie et par l'Italie.

Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres,
le 28 juillet, 1913.

[34866] No. 672

British Red Cross Society to Foreign Office.—(Received July 29.)

Sir, 9, *Victoria Street, London, July 28, 1913.*

I AM instructed to forward to you a copy of a letter which has reached the British Red Cross Society this afternoon, and in response to this request the society is now organising a relief section, similar to those which have been despatched to Greece and Servia. This section will be under the command of Major E. T. F. Birrell, R.A.M.C., who was in command of the Red Cross units attached to the Bulgarian army during the Balkan-Turkish War.

The society has made application to the Army Council to sanction Major Birrell being attached to the Red Cross as commandant of the relief section.

This relief section will leave London on Friday evening next, and as there appears to be some doubt as to whether the railway is in operation between Belgrade and Sophia, the society would be grateful if you could do anything to ensure this section, together with its stores and equipment, being helped through from Belgrade to Sophia, in order that it may report its arrival to the military authorities and His Majesty's representative at Sophia.

I am, &c.
FRANK HASTINGS, *Secretary.*

Enclosure in No. 672

M. Mincoff to British Red Cross Society

Dear Sir, *Bulgarian Legation, London, July 27, 1913.*

THE Bulgarian Government and the Bulgarian nation would be extremely grateful to the British Red Cross Society if it could send Red Cross assistance to Bulgaria. The need is urgent, for the amount of suffering is enormous, while the medical resources of the country are limited. I understand that similar assistance has already been despatched to Greece and Servia, and I earnestly trust that the society will see its way to stretching a succouring hand to us also.

Thanking you in advance

I am, &c.
C. C. MINCOFF,
Bulgarian Chargé d'Affaires.

[34876] No. 673.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 146.

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.* *Bucharest, July 28, 1913.*

ALL the plenipotentiaries have arrived except M. Venizelos, who is expected to-night.

[34920] No. 674

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 368.

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 28, 1913.*

I SPOKE to the Grand Vizier this afternoon in the sense of your telegram No. 352 of 26th July, but as it has, I think, been established that encroachment over the old Bulgarian frontier has been considerably exaggerated, I laid little stress on that point, and emphasised rather the view that Europe would take of excesses of Ottoman troops in reoccupied territory, pointing out that with this example of Turkish treatment of Turkish subjects no one could acquiesce in restoration of territory to her.

His Highness made no reply to make, but enquired what the consequence would be to Turkey. I said that he could appreciate them himself. It seemed to me that, by violating the Treaty of London, Turkey had flouted the Powers, and by massacring Greeks she had alienated the only one of the Balkan States which might have been interested in coming to an understanding. With all Europe against her effective means would be found to enforce Enos-Midia line, and Turkey would be well advised to bow to the inevitable.

I think the Grand Vizier personally is dismayed at the situation Turkey has created for herself, for he endeavoured to put all the responsibility on Enver Bey and other hot-heads in the army.

The heir apparent goes this evening to Adrianople to take part in celebration of reoccupation, which is sufficiently significant of the Committee's intentions.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[34945] No. 675.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 369.)

(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 28, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 366 of 27th July.

Delegate sent by Ecumenical Patriarch has returned from tour in affected districts, and reports that from forty to fifty villages have been destroyed, and 16,000 persons, mostly Greeks, killed. While I am disposed to think latter figure exaggerated, there can be no doubt that excesses are more, worse than I have so far reported.

I spoke very strongly to Grand Vizier to-day. His Highness hardly attempted to deny any of the facts reported in my telegram above mentioned. He said that Patriarch's figures are grossly exaggerated. Mixed Commissions were to be sent to investigate and punish the guilty. I said that my information showed that no credence could be placed in such Commissions.

(Sent to Athens.)

[34884] No. 676.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 29.*)

(No. 370.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 28, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 361 of 25th July and Sophia telegram No. 322 of 26th July. Grand Vizier has promised to publish official *démenti*.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[35071] No. 677.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 147 A.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Bucharest, July 29, 1913.*

LEADING Roumanian plenipotentiaries are the Prime Minister and Take Jonesco. Attitude of Servian plenipotentiaries at the coming conference seems likely to be somewhat uncompromising. A flamboyant pronouncement from Spalaikovitch appears as an interview in one of this morning's papers in which Spalaikovitch declares that Servia will admit neither armistice nor peace preliminaries. Servian plenipotentiaries have not come, he says, to waste time in talk with Bulgarian. They demand immediate conclusion of peace, whether a definite peace with every guarantee of permanency or war. We shall put our conditions, which are to take or leave. If they are accepted, peace will be concluded immediately. If not, so much the worse for Bulgaria, we have not come here to bargain."

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[35086] No. 678.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 143.)
(Telegraphic.) *Decode* *Athens, July 29, 1913.*

FOLLOWING for Director of Military Operations from military attaché:—

"After further combats at points 1079 and 1378 north-east of Simith, Greeks have advanced to within 4 kilom. of Dzumaja. Bulgarians retreating across frontier."

[35080] No. 679.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 126.)
(Telegraphic.) *Rome, July 29, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 121 of 27th July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs has now sent me following message in reply to question I addressed to Secretary-General on 26th July:—

"Ministre des Affaires Étrangères est d'avis que, avant d'examiner les moyens de coercition, il faut essayer que la Turquie se contente de la ligne Enos–Midia rectifiée et améliorée, en donnant des compensations, i.e., quelques îles et des avantages financiers et d'autre genre, en faisant comprendre en même temps que dans aucun cas elle ne pourra conserver Andrinople, parce que si l'Europe n'agissant, c'est la Russie qui agira."

The reference to Russia is only an expression of opinion and not based on any communication from St. Petersburgh.

Please refer to my telegram No. 123 of 27th July as elucidating passage respecting islands.

[35078] No. 680.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 122.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July 29, 1913.*

YOUR telegram to Paris, No. 293 of 28th July.

German Government have received similar demand from Bulgarian Government and do not propose even to answer it.

A German officer who is with the Greek army has been allowed at the request of King of Greece to verify atrocities within easy reach in same way as other foreign officers, but Secretary of State thinks it out of the question that an international commission should be appointed for the purpose.

[35072] No. 681.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 103.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 29, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 293 of 28th July.

The French Government have received a similar communication from the Bulgarian Government, and are prepared to accede to their request. The French Government consider that it would not be possible to refuse, but as no good purpose would be served by the enquiry they think that it would be well to delay it as much as possible, for once peace is signed the matter would probably be allowed to drop.

The French Government would accede to similar demand should it be made by other belligerents.

[35077] No. 682.

Sir F. Bertie to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 104.)
(Telegraphic.) *Paris, July 29, 1913.*

POLITICAL Director told Mr. Carnegie that Austrian Ambassador came to see him yesterday to sound him in regard to Minister for Foreign Affairs' views on Adrianople. Political Director informed the Ambassador that the French Minister for Foreign Affairs had considered that the Turks should not be allowed to retain Adrianople on the ground that the terms of the Treaty of London must be respected, but that he would not consider any measures for compelling Turkey to yield which might endanger the concert of Europe. The Austrian Ambassador said that he felt sure, though only expressing his personal view, that if Russia entered Armenia or landed troops near Constantinople, or gave Bulgaria military assistance Austria would occupy the sanjak.

Political Director remarked to Mr. Carnegie that from information received from Berlin it was evident that the above views were not only personal, but were also those of the Austro-Hungarian Government. He went on to say that the French Minister for Foreign Affairs was continuing to urge prudence at St. Petersburgh as any precipitate action on the part of Russia would certainly break up the concert and might imperil the Triple *Entente*.

He feared that peace negotiations at Bucharest would prove abortive, as he heard that Bulgaria would demand autonomy for Macedonia and separate treaties with Roumania on the one hand, and with Greece and Servia on the other.

Mr. Carnegie derived the impression from remarks of the Political Director that the French Government are not much concerned in the ultimate fate of Adrianople.

[35002] No. 683.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 120.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Vienna, July 29, 1913.*

ALBANIA.

Your telegram No. 235 of 25th July

The Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs told me this morning that in his opinion the words 'existing authorities" proposed by you are objectionable, as they might be interpreted to mean the Servian or Greek authorities now ruling in certain districts of what may be within future Albania. He therefore suggests the substitution of words "Albanian authorities.

Count Mensdorff has received instructions accordingly

[35068] No. 684.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 121.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 29, 1913*

BULGARIAN atrocities.

Your telegram of yesterday

Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs told me this morning that so far no invitation had been received from the Bulgarian Government for the nomination of international commission. He agrees with you that should Bulgarian invitation be accepted it may be expected that similar invitations will soon be received from other Balkan States. He thinks that perhaps the best course to pursue would be nomination of one commission to examine all the phases of the atrocities, and it seemed to me from his language that he had in mind possible extension of scope of this commission to enquire into ill-treatment of Albanian population by Servians anterior to the second Balkan War. Minister for Foreign Affairs observed to me that the commission would meet with great difficulties owing to careful removal by interested parties of all traces of massacres before arrival of commission on the spot. He added that such a commission would require a host of interpreters to carry out thorough examination of witnesses.

With regard to atrocities at Serres he told me that he and Germany had carried out certain preliminary enquiries, but he seemed to hesitate in coming to conclusion with regard to evidence before him.

[35084] No. 685.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 29.)

(No. 70.)
(Telegraphic.) *Salonica, July 29, 1913.*

RELATIVES beg Foreign Office to ask for news of persons who have been carried off from Cavalla by Bulgarians, especially Leccos, and who are said to be at Sophia.

[34511] No. 686.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 361.)
(Telegraphic.) R *Foreign Office, July 29, 1913*

YOUR telegram No. 343 of 17th July

Shipowners ask exactly what ports on Turkish coast and in Sea of Marmora can be considered safe for vessels to enter. Please try to obtain more precise information from Turkish Government.

[34866] No. 686*

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Paget.**

(No. 114.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 29, 1913.*

AT request of Bulgarian Government British Red Cross Society are despatching to Sophia on evening of 1st August relief section under command of Major E. T. F. Birrell, R.A.M.C.

Can you obtain facilities for direct passage of section, with stores and equipment?

[34009] No. 687.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 230.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July 29, 1913*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 631 of the 15th instant relative to the appointment of a kadi for Scutari, and I approve the reply returned by you to the enquiry addressed to you on the subject by Vice-Admiral Sir Cecil Burney.

The question is one which will have eventually to be examined and reported on by the commission of control to be set up in Albania.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[33674] No. 688.

Sir Edward Grey to Lord Granville.

(No. 239.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, July 29, 1913*

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch No. 264, Confidential, of the 20th instant, reporting a conversation with the German Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on the question of an international conference for the settlement of the troubles in the Balkans.

I transmit to your Lordship herewith the report of a statement which I made in the House of Commons on 11th December last,† stating why Paris would presumably be the first place to be considered as such a general conference be found opportune and necessary.

Your Lordship should take an opportunity of informing Herr von Jagow that I must still consider myself bound by the declaration which I made on that occasion, but that I agree with his Excellency that to talk of a conference at this moment is premature.

I may also refer your Lordship to my despatch No. 234 of the 21st instant recording a conversation with the French and Russian Ambassadors on the subject, in the course of which I expressed the same views.

I should in any case not desire the conference to be in London as His Majesty's Government has already had so large a share of the burden of these discussions.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

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* Also to Sir R. Rex-Ironside (No. 156).
† "Parliamentary Debates," p. 450, December 11 1912.

[37297] No. 689.

Proceedings of Ambassadors' Meeting, held July 29, 1913.

EN ce qui concerne le Monténégro qui a fait connaître l'évacuation complète du territoire albanais, la réunion pense qu'en prenant acte de cette évacuation les représentants des Puissances à Cettigné devront déclarer au Gouvernement monténégrin que les Puissances prendront en considération les mesures nécessaires pour le règlement de la question des irrigations et pour une assistance financière.

Sir E. Grey propose de rappeler avec insistance au Gouvernement serbe par les représentants des Puissances son obligation d'évacuer sans délai les territoires albanais et de respecter les limites de la frontière nord et nord-est de l'Albanie telles qu'elles ont été définies par les Puissances et communiquées au Gouvernement serbe le 5 avril 1913.

En même temps les représentants des Puissances renouvelleront et confirmeront par écrit l'engagement des Puissances relatif au chemin de fer et à l'accès commercial à l'Adriatique, conformément à la déclaration de la réunion du 1er juillet et au mémorandum de la même date interprétatif de cette déclaration.

Resolutions.

(1)

La réunion s'étant mise d'accord sur l'organisation de l'Albanie et notamment sur les conditions de l'établissement de la Commission internationale de Contrôle, pense qu'il y a lieu pour les Gouvernements de procéder au choix de leurs représentants dans cette commission et aux mesures nécessaires pour leur assurer des traitements suffisants. Ces traitements seront assurés aux membres de la commission par leurs Gouvernements respectifs, et la réunion pense qu'il est désirable que le même traitement soit alloué à chacun d'eux.

La réunion est d'avis qu'il convient de s'adresser dès maintenant au Gouvernement suédois pour obtenir la désignation d'officiers chargés de l'instruction et du commandement de la gendarmerie. Il paraît nécessaire de désigner d'abord un officier supérieur qui, d'accord avec la Commission de Contrôle et d'après les exigences du service, appréciera le nombre des officiers à désigner.

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(2)

L'Ambassadeur de Russie et l'Ambassadeur d'Autriche-Hongrie informent la réunion de l'accord de leurs Gouvernements relatif à la protection des minorités incorporées à la Serbie et au Monténégro dont ils avaient annoncé la préparation à la séance du 1er juillet.

Cet accord est ainsi conçu :

"On répétera aux Gouvernements serbe et monténégrin la déclaration décidée à la réunion des Ambassadeurs, le 22 mars, 1913, ainsi conçue :

"'Il est indispensable de prendre d'urgence des mesures pour assurer la protection effective des populations catholiques, musulmanes et albanaises dans les territoires cédés au Monténégro et à la Serbie.'

"On ajoutera comme interprétation que dans le futur traité de paix il sera confirmé que les garanties prévues par les articles 27, 30 (les deux premiers alinéas), 35 et 39 (premier alinéa) du Traité de Berlin restent en vigueur. Il est expressément entendu que les garanties s'étendent également au profit des Albanais au libre usage de la langue albanaise pour l'enseignement scolaire et pour la publication de livres et de périodiques."

La réunion adhère à cette rédaction.

Sur la proposition de Sir E. Grey, elle est d'avis qu'il y a lieu de faire communiquer par les représentants des Puissances la rédaction ci-dessus aux Gouvernements serbe et monténégrin.

Sur l'observation du Comte Benckendorff, elle reconnaît que l'usage des libertés concédées aux minorités est subordonné au droit commun applicable à tous les sujets serbes ou monténégrins.

Organisation de l'Albanie.

L'Albanie est constituée en principauté autonome, souveraine et héréditaire par ordre de primogéniture, sous la garantie des six Puissances. Le Prince sera désigné par les six Puissances.

2. Tout lien politique entre la Turquie et l'Albanie est rompu.

3. L'Albanie est neutralisée. Sa neutralité est garantie par les six Puissances.

4. Le contrôle de l'administration civile et des finances de l'Albanie est confié à une commission internationale composée des délégués des six Puissances et d'un délégué de l'Albanie.

5. Les pouvoirs de cette commission dureront deux ans et pourront être renouvelés en cas de besoin.

6. Cette commission sera chargée d'élaborer un projet d'organisation détaillé de toutes les branches de l'administration de l'Albanie. Elle présentera aux Puissances, dans un délai de six mois, un rapport sur le résultat de ses travaux ainsi que ses conclusions au sujet de l'organisation administrative et financière du pays.

7. Le Prince sera nommé dans un délai de six mois au plus tard. En attendant sa désignation et la formation du Gouvernement national définitif, le fonctionnement des autorités indigènes existantes ainsi que de la gendarmerie formera l'objet du contrôle de la commission internationale.

8. La sécurité et l'ordre public seront assurés par l'organisation internationale de la gendarmerie. Cette organisation sera confiée à des officiers étrangers, qui auront le commandement supérieur et effectif de la gendarmerie.

9. Ces officiers seront choisis dans l'armée suédoise.

10. La mission des officiers instructeurs étrangers ne portera pas atteinte ni à l'uniformité du service, ni à l'emploi d'officiers, sous-officiers et gendarmes indigènes.

11. Les traitements de ces officiers pourront être assurés sur les ressources du pays avec la garantie des Puissances.

[35160] No. 690.

Mr. Ramsay to Mr. Maxwell.—(Received July 30.)

Treasury, July 29, 1913.

My dear Maxwell,

IN continuation of my letter of the 10th July, I now send copy of a note on the questions asked by Paul Harvey as to the Ottoman loans of 1891 and 1894.

I believe it to be correct, but, as the matter is rather complicated, I should be obliged if you would have my memorandum checked in your Office, and let Harvey know whether you agree with it. In the meantime, I have sent a copy to him, telling him that he may expect to hear from you whether you agree or not.

Yours sincerely,

MALCOLM G. RAMSAY.

Enclosure in No. 690.

Memorandum by Mr. Ramsay.

IN 1854 the Egyptian tribute amounted (in round figures) to 282,000*l*. The loan of 1854 was secured thereon, involving an annual payment of 210,000*l*. There was thus available a balance of 72,000*l*. for the guaranteed loan of 1855 under the convention of the 27th June, 1855.

In 1866 the tribute was increased to 681,820*l*.

It will be seen that this sum was more than sufficient to cover the loans of 1854 and 1855

In 1871 the Ottoman Government found it necessary to raise a fresh loan, as security for which they proposed to pledge the additional tribute which was derived from Egypt in 1866.

On being consulted by the Foreign Office, the Treasury stated that they saw no objection to the conditions of this new loan so long as the priority of charge of the guaranteed loan of 1855 remained secured

At this point the question suggests itself—did the charge in favour of the guaranteed loan created in 1855 merely extend to the surplus Egyptian tribute at that date (72,000*l.*), or did it embrace the additions to the tribute made in 1866? The Treasury records of 1871 do not show whether this point was discussed at the time, but it is clear that the Turkish Government took the former view, and this was not challenged by the Treasury

Accordingly a loan of 5,700,000*l* was raised in 1871 on behalf of the Sultan, who assigned as security for it an annual charge of 399,000*l* on the tribute of Egypt as augmented in 1866.

The position thus became as follows

The tribute furnished security

	£
For the loan of 1854	210,000
" " 1855	72,000
" 1871	399,000
	681,000

In 1877 the Ottoman Government had need to raise a fresh defence loan, and they were able to induce the holders of the loans of 1854 and 1871 (in consideration of new arrangements which would secure the punctual payment of the interest, &c., due to them, which had not been properly remitted in the past) to accept a reduced interest and sinking fund for these loans The result was to set free the portion of the Egyptian tribute which was pledged as security for the new defence loan of 1877

The charges on the Egyptian tribute thus became as follows —

	£
Loan of 1854	99,511
Guaranteed loan of 1855	72,000
Loan of 1871	229,737
New defence loan of 1877	280,622
	681,870

In 1894 a new loan was raised to convert the loan of 1877, and to this loan there was pledged the annuity of 280,622*l*, which, as shown above, had been assigned to the loan of 1877

In 1903 a further loan was raised to convert the loans of 1854 and 1871, and to the service of this loan there was appropriated a sum of 329,245*l*, which represented the charge on the Egyptian tribute previously applied to the service of the loans of 1854 and 871

Treasury Chambers, July 20, 1913.

[35134] No. 691

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 30.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July 29, 1913*

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of telegrams, dated the 29th instant, from Admiral Burney, relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.

W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 691

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty

(Telegraphic.) *July 29, 1913.*

I BEG to request that strong pressure may be used to compel Servian Government to withdraw their troops from Albanian territory, especially in view of telegram from His Majesty's Minister at Belgrade that Servians intend to remain at Orsova. Otherwise trouble with tribes will certainly ensue. Meridies refrained from taking hostile action only because I communicated to them Servian Government's provious statement that orders to troops to withdraw from Albanian territory had already been given

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Enclosure 2 in No. 691.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty

(Telegraphic.) *July 29, 1913*

ITALIAN and Austrian troops reached here this day

[35254] No. 692

Note communicated by Austro-Hungarian Embassy, July 30, 1913.

LE Comte Mensdorff a eu l'honneur de remettre à Sir Edward Grey trois notices, le 2 juillet, le 21 juillet et le 25 juillet, toutes ayant trait à l'occupation d'une partie de l'Albanie par les troupes serbes. Le Ministre d'Autriche-Hongrie à Belgrade a fait le 3 juillet, la même démarche que le Ministre d'Angleterre auprès du Gouvernement serbe pour que les troupes en question soient retirées le plus tôt possible afin d'éviter des rencontres avec les tribus albanaises

M. de Ugron a réitéré cette démarche le 24 juillet, le Ministre d'Italie faisant la même démarche.

M. Pachitch a répondu à cette démarche que les autorités militaires, craignant que des bandes albanaises ne puissent se former dans le district de Mati, considéra t comme nécessaire de tenir des troupes serbes sur toute l'étendue de la chaîne de montagnes dominant ce district. Ces troupes ne pourront être retirées que lorsque le Gouvernement albanais sera à même d'empêcher la formation de bandes ou lorsque la commission aura fixé la frontière sur les lieux

Or, la réunion a décidé, le 9 janvier, que la Serbie serait tenue d'évacuer le littoral et les territoires de l'Albanie après sa délimitation par les Puissances, dès que les Puissances lui auront notifié leur décision

Cette notification a été faite par Sir Edward Grey au Chargé d'Affaires de Serbie le 23 janvier, et renouvelée le 11 mars

Une démarche formelle a été faite le 29 mars à Belgrade, et le Gouvernement serbe s'engageant, dans sa réponse du 7 avril, d'évacuer les régions de l'Albanie après la conclusion de la paix avec la Turquie, en déclarant en même temps avoir besoin de connaître au préalable les frontières projetées de l'Albanie pour être en mesure d'effectuer son engagement.

Le tracé de frontière délimité par les Puissances pour le nord et nord-est a été communiqué au Gouvernement serbe le 15 avril, 1913.

Cet exposé des faits montre que le retard apporté par le Gouvernement serbe à l'évacuation des territoires albanais est en contradiction avec les décisions des Puissances et les engagements solennels du Gouvernement serbe lui-même

Il est inadmissible que ce Gouvernement invoque maintenant des prétendues raisons stratégiques pour se dérober à l'accomplissement des engagements confirmés à plusieurs reprises.

Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres,
le 29 juillet, 1913

[35260] No. 693.

Memoranda communicated by Count Mensdorff, July 30, 1913.

(1)

POUR assurer un sain développement économique du Monténégro, le produit de l'emprunt monténégrin garanti par les six Puissances devrait être affecté aux dépenses suivantes —

	Millions de francs.
Formation d'un crédit foncier ou banque agricole pour faire aux paysans des avances et prêts sur leurs terres à petit intérêt	7
Construction de routes dans les territoires nouvellement acquis, savoir Plevlje-Priepolje-Bjelopolje-Berana-Andrijevitza (Podgoritza), Andrijevitza-Gusinje-Ipek-Dakovo, Berana-Rožaj-Ipek, Bjelopolje-Mojkovatz-Kolašin (Podgoritza), Plevlje-Tara-Zabljak-Savnik-Nikšitch (à peu près 350 kilom. de routes)	5
Contribution du Monténégro pour la canalisation de la Bojana et le desséchement partiel du lac de Scutari (le Monténégro gagnera ces milliers d'hectares de terrain productif, et la navigation entre la mer et les places monténégrines sur le lac de Scutari sera directe)	5
Pensions pour les invalides et les veuves et orphelins des militaires tués dans la guerre	3
Retrait de papier-monnaie émis par le Gouvernement monténégrin pendant la guerre	2
Remboursement de l'emprunt Boulton Brothers à Londres (1910), et de l'emprunt Bodon-Credit-Anstalt (1912), les revenus des douanes et du monopole du sel donnés comme garanties pour ces emprunts seraient ainsi libérés et pourraient être affectés comme garanties à l'emprunt garanti par les Puissances	10
	31

Le dessèchement partiel du lac de Scutari et la canalisation de la Bojana figurent dans cet état pour 5,000,000 de francs comme contribution du Monténégro pour les frais de ces travaux. L'Albanie ayant également un intérêt dans ces travaux, il serait à désirer qu'elle y contribuât aussi de sa part. L'accomplissement de ces travaux devrait être confié à une entreprise étrangère.

A ce propos, la question de la navigation du lac de Scutari devrait être réglée d'une façon pouvant offrir une satisfaction légitime aux six Puissances garantes de l'emprunt. La situation actuelle est telle que la navigation du lac est libre pour le Monténégro et pour l'Albanie qui succède aux droits possédés sous ce rapport par la Turquie. Toutefois, le Gouvernement monténégrin a adopté déjà avant la dernière guerre un point de vue qui rend ces droits illusoires. Il soutient que les échelles monténégrines auxquelles la navigation du lac est dirigée, savoir, Plavnitza, Réka et Virpazar, ne sont pas les échelles actuelles, mais celles qui sont situées dans des fleuves monténégrins se déversant dans le lac, et que partant l'autre État riverain du lac (Turquie ou Albanie) ne peut pas prétendre à toucher ces échelles.

La seule bonne solution serait donc d'établir en faveur de tous les pavillons la liberté de la navigation de la Bojana et du lac de Scutari, sans exception d'aucun des affluents immédiats du lac et de ce fleuve, même ceux qui pourraient être creusés dans le cours des futurs travaux de régularisation de la Bojana et du lac de Scutari.

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(2)

Pour assurer que le produit de l'emprunt soit affecté aux dépenses d'utilité publique prévues d'accord avec le Gouvernement monténégrin, il paraît indispensable de créer un département étranger avec l'outillage nécessaire qui serait chargé du service de surveillance à ce sujet.

Par le remboursement des anciens emprunts les garanties leur affectées seront libres, ces garanties comprennent les recettes des douanes et le revenu du monopole

du sel. Ces deux revenus étaient calculés avant la guerre à 1,500,000 fr. par an, par l'incorporation des nouveaux territoires que le Monténégro aura gagnés par la guerre contre la Turquie ces revenus augmenteront considérablement et il y a lieu de s'attendre à ce qu'ils suffisent pour le service de l'emprunt garanti.

Ambassade d'Autriche-Hongrie, Londres,
le 30 juillet, 1913.

[35184] No. 693*.

M. Sazonof to Count Benckendorff.—(Communicated to Foreign Office, July 30.)

M. SAZONOF télégraphie en date du 13 (26) juillet, 1913 —

"Le Gouvernement Impérial a lu entièrement aux résolutions prises à la dernière séance de la réunion des Ambassadeurs à Londres.

Le Gouvernement Impérial pourrait espérer que toutes les Puissances feront dans Constantinople qu'auprès des États balkaniques et en termes identiques des déclarations précises à cet égard.

Le Gouvernement Impérial pense qu'il est nécessaire que les Huit garants soient avisés que, jusqu'à la complète évacuation de la presqu'île de Gallipoli, aucun appui financier de la part des Puissances européennes. Nous persistons à penser que cette mesure rendue effective par l'influence des Gouvernements sur leurs sphères financières respectives ne saurait manquer d'être efficace.

Veuillez vous expliquer en ce sens et exprimer au Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité l'espoir que il voudra bien donner l'instructions conformes aux représentants à Constantinople et dans les États balkaniques."

[35183] No. 694.

Note communicated by Count Benckendorff, July 30, 1913.

(Confidentielle.)

M. SAZONOF télégraphie en date du 14 (27) juillet —

"Sans avoir pris à ce sujet de résolution définitive, nous pensons qu'il serait à ce moment les navires de la flotte russe, actuellement dans la Méditerranée, à l'exception du stationnaire, entrent rentrer, ce qui ne saurait manquer d'exercer un effet moral sur la Sublime Porte et certains centres européens et serait indiqué par la prudence. Le moment au rappel pourrait être indiqué par l'Ambassadeur de Russie à Constantinople que conférerait à ce sujet avec ses collègues d'Angleterre et de France."

[35185] No. 695.

Said Halim Pasha to Turkish Ambassador.—(Communicated to Foreign Office, July 30.)

(Télégraphique.) *Sublime Porte, 27 juillet, 1913.*

EN réponse au télégramme de votre Altesse, je l'prie de remercier vivement Sir E. Grey de ses dispositions amicales à l'égard de notre pays et de prier à Son Excellence que nous espérons fermement qu'elle voudra bien continuer à donner toujours de réelles preuves de sa précieuse amitié.

En vue de ne pas indisposer les Puissances, nous avons limité le champ d'action de notre armée au territoire compris en deçà de la Maritza et de la frontière bulgare. Il va sans dire que la frontière naturelle déterminée par la Maritza devra comprendre la ville d'Andrinople, qui est le seul rempart pour assurer la défense des Dardanelles et conséquemment celle de la capitale. En second lieu, c'est une ville essentiellement turque, attachée à sa patrie ottomane par des liens historiques, ethniques et religieux. Nous serions par conséquent reconnaissants à Sir E. Grey s'il voulait bien user de tous le concert européen de l'influence et de l'autorité incontestables dont il dispose pour faire accepter aux Puissances et notamment à la Russie, le maintien en possession ottomane des territoires reoccupés par l'armée et qui n'ont aucun lien avec la Bulgarie. D'ailleurs,

le Cabinet qui ordonnerait l'évacuation d'Andrinople ne serait pas obéi et tomberait aussitôt en entraînant le pays dans l'anarchie la plus absolue. Or, il est indubitable qu'en occupant Andrinople le Cabinet actuel s'est consolidé et raffermi comme jamais aucun Cabinet n'a pu le faire depuis le changement de régime, car il se trouve avoir réalisé l'idéal le plus cher de toute une nation cruellement éprouvée, mais reconnaissante et pleine d'espoir aujourd'hui. Je me crois donc en droit d'espérer que les Grandes Puissances désireuses de voir en Turquie un Gouvernement d'une force et d'un prestige suffisants pour réaliser le relèvement du pays se montrent plus sympathiques qu'elles ne le furent jusqu'ici envers l'occupation d'Andrinople et qu'elles aident le Gouvernement ottoman à retrouver la confiance du pays et par conséquent à entreprendre avec succès l'œuvre de relèvement tant désiré de tous. J'ai donc la conviction la plus absolue que ce serait commettre l'erreur la plus regrettable que d'insister sur l'évacuation d'Andrinople et que, en le faisant, les Grandes Puissances finiront par créer des complications autrement plus graves que celles qui existent en ce moment.

[35186] No. 696.

M. Sazonof to Count Benckendorff.—(Communicated to Foreign Office, July 30.)

(Télégraphique.) *Saint-Pétersbourg, le 14 (27) juillet, 1913.*

D'APRÈS les renseignements du Gouvernement bulgare, Enver Bey aurait déclaré au corps des officiers à Andrinople que les troupes turques réoccuperaient sans délai, à Vieille-Bulgarie. Un débarquement de troupes turques aurait eu lieu à Vassiliko, au sud de Bourgas, sur la mer Noire. Le Gouvernement bulgare considère ce débarquement comme la mise à exécution d'un plan ultérieur de mouvements militaires.

[35128] No. 697.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 373.)
(Telegraphic.) *Constantinople, July 29, 1913.*

THE Turks are contemplating sending Osman Nizami Pasha to London, Paris, and Berlin to plead for the retention of Adrianople. His main arguments would be sentimental value attached to that town, impossibility of withdrawal on account of high feeling running in the army, and more especially Bulgarian atrocities, which would make it impossible to leave Moslem populations under Bulgarian rule. The first two considerations have some shred of truth, but whatever feeling there may be is of recent growth, and greatly exaggerated by the Constantinople press. As regards the third point Moslems in Old Bulgaria have had little cause for complaint in the past.

I venture to suggest that he should not be received.

(Sent to Sophia.)

[35284] No. 698.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 374.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 30, 1913.*

IN Turkish official circles conviction exists that out of consideration for her Indian Moslem subjects and for Moslem feeling in Egypt Great Britain will shrink from participating in or countenancing coercive measures against Turkey to enforce Treaty of London.

As far as can be judged at Constantinople, whence Islamic propaganda is directed, Pan-Islam is a force much less to be reckoned with at present than when we disregarded it without untoward consequences at the time of Akaba difficulty or the Aden frontier question.

[35265] No. 699.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 375.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Constantinople, July 30, 1913.*

MY telegram No. 366 of 27th July.

Consular representatives of six Powers at Rodosto have sent their embassies collective statement confirming British vice-consul's report as to responsibility of Turkish authorities and their attempts to extort signatures of Christians to false exculpatory report.

[35133] No. 700.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 148.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 30, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 37 of 23rd July, last paragraph.

Austrian Minister made statement in question some days ago, but I propose to defer action until French and Russian Ministers have similar instructions.

Arrangements have been made to keep representatives of the Great Powers informed of what passes at the Conference, which is to hold its first meeting to-day.

[35245] No. 701.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 149.)
(Telegraphic.) *Bucharest, July 30, 1913.*

THE Greek Prime Minister has proposed a suspension of hostilities for five days, and this has been agreed on in principle by the other plenipotentiaries. Details are to be settled at the meeting to-day. The Servian plenipotentiaries are against a formal armistice, and prefer merely that general orders should be given to the troops not to attack.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia and Belgrade.)

[35251] No. 702.

Sir F. Cartwright to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 122. Most Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) *Vienna, July 30, 1913.*

I LEARN from a well informed source—and the information is confirmed by the Greek Minister here—that during the past week the Greek army has been encountering unusual resistance on the part of the Bulgarian army, and the inference is that the latter has been very considerably strengthened against Greece. Hostilities have nearly ceased between Servia and Bulgaria, and it is suspected at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs here that some kind of secret understanding has been arrived at between Servia and Bulgaria to enable the latter to withdraw troops from the Servian side to concentrate them against the Greeks.

[35267] No. 703.

Sir R. Paget to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 187.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Belgrade, July 30, 1913.*

BUCHAREST telegram No. 147 of 29th July.

Minister for Foreign Affairs published communiqué to the effect that interview attributed to M. Spalaikovitch is incorrect, and does not represent views of Servian plenipotentiaries.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Bucharest.)

[35262] No. 704.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 30.)

(No. 327 A.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Sophia, July 30, 1913.*

YOUR telegram No. 156 of 29th July.

Red Cross section should travel via Bucharest. Please inform me of number of members. Medical stores unobtainable here.

[35458] No. 705.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Paget.

(No. 115.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 30, 1913.*

WHEN your colleagues have received the necessary instructions, you should join with them in informing the Servian Government that it is urgently necessary that they should evacuate without delay all the localities in Albania in occupation of their troops, and that they should respect the frontier of north and north-east Albania as established by the Powers and communicated to the Servian Government on 15th April, 1913. You should also at the same time in conjunction with your colleagues, renew and confirm in writing the engagement of the Powers relative to the international railway and commercial access to the Adriatic in conformity with the declaration and explanatory memorandum of the Ambassadors meeting on 1st July (see Constantinople print "Turkish War, No. 30581, section 1 July 1).

[37297] No. 706.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir R. Paget.**

(No. 116.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 30, 1913.*

WHEN your colleagues have received the necessary instructions, you should, in conjunction with them, communicate the following to the Government to which you are accredited:—

"On reportera aux Gouvernements serbe et monténégrin la Déclaration décidée à la réunion des Ambassadeurs, le 22 mars, 1913 ainsi, conçue" (see my telegram, No. 66) (see my telegram No. 30) —

"'Il est indispensable de prendre d'urgence des mesures assurer la protection effective des populations catholiques, russulmanes et albanaises dans les territoires cedés au Monténégro et à la Serbie.'

"On ajoutera comme interprétation que dans le futur traité de paix il sera confirmé que les garanties prevues par les articles 27–30 (les deux premiers alinéas), 35 et 39 (premier alinea) du Traité de Berlin restent en vigueur. Il est expressément entendu que les garanties s'étendent également au profit des Albanais au libre usage de la langue albanaise pour l'enseignement scolaire et pour la publication de livres et de périodiques."

[31528] No. 707.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.†

(No. 205.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 30, 1913.*

MR. MARLING'S telegram No. 373 of 29th July. Mission of Osman Nizami Pasha.

Inform Government to which you are accredited, and ask their views as to what should be said to Osman Nizami Pasha.

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* Also to Count de Salis (No. 77).

† Also to Earl Granville (No. 287).

[35549] No. 708.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.**

(No. 206.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, July 30, 1913.*

THE Swedish Minister has informed me that owing to reports that have appeared respecting intention of the Powers to ask for Swedish officers for Albania he was instructed by his Government to inform me privately and confidentially that the Swedish Government having already sent a number of Swedish officers to Persia for organising gendarmerie, and considering it of great importance that this work should be brought to a satisfactory result, regret that they cannot, should the question arise, undertake to lend officers of the Swedish army for organising the Albanian gendarmerie.

I told the Minister that the Powers were on the point of making application, and asked him whether this was really a final decision on the part of Swedish Government.

He assured me that it was a real decision and to grand reluctance, and that Swedish Government hoped request would not be made officially.

You should inform Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Repeated to Stockholm No. 4.)

[35084] No. 709.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 158.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 30, 1913.*

SALONICA telegram No. 70 of 29th July. Greeks carried off from Cavalla by Bulgarians.

Please try to find out what has become of these people.

[37297] No. 710.

Sir Edward Grey to Count de Salis.

(No. 76.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 30, 1913.*

AT meeting of Ambassadors yesterday it was resolved to take act of the declaration of the Montenegrin Government that their troops have completely evacuated Albanian territory, and when your colleagues have received the necessary instructions you should, in conjunction with them, inform the Montenegrin Government that the Powers will take into consideration the measures necessary for dealing with the irrigation question and for providing assistance.

[35549] No. 711.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Howard.

(No. 5.)
(Telegraphic.) *Foreign Office, July 30, 1913.*

IT was decided at the reunion of Ambassadors yesterday that when your colleagues received the necessary instructions you should join with them in approaching the Swedish Government and asking if they would be disposed to designate officers from their army for the instruction and command of the gendarmerie to be established in Albania. It would be advisable that the Swedish Government should, in the first place, appoint a superior officer, who should proceed to Albania, and, in consultation with the International Commission of Control, decide upon the number of officers necessary for the requirements of the service.

To-day the information contained in my telegram to Embassies repeated to you has been received from Swedish Minister. You should inform your colleagues, and await further instructions.

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* Also to Earl Granville (No. 288), Sir R. Rodd (No. 227), Sir G. Buchanan (No. 561), and Sir F. Cartwright (No. 237).

[35639] No. 712

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.**

(No. 479.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 30, 1913.*

I TOLD the French and Russian Ambassadors to-day that the best suggestion that I could make for an agreement about the southern Albanian frontier, in view of what the Albanian news to-day suggests of their occupation, would be that an international commission should visit the country, with the instruction that Koritza and Stylos should go to Albania, it would be understood that Mytilene, Chios and the other Aegean islands—except of course Tenedos, Imbros and Thasos—should go to Greece, with the exception of those islands now in the occupation of Italy, but that Italy should undertake to evacuate these islands and restore them to Turkey when Koritza and Stylos went to Albania. The destiny of the islands restored by Italy to Turkey would be eventually decided by the Powers.

The French Ambassador said that his instructions were to try to get Koritza for Greece, but to give way if it was found impossible, and to try to get as much as possible of the region of Argyrocastro for Greece.

I said that there would be the advantage of getting an agreement that the commission should have power to give part of the Argyrocastro district to Greece. Questions of this sort would have to be left to the commission.

The French Ambassador said that he assumed that the British, Russian and French representatives of the commission would have as their object to get as much as possible for Greece.

I said that the British representative would, I thought, be instructed that the Koritza-Vlach district should go to Greece, subject to certain guarantees about language, schools, &c., but that for the rest strategic regard must be had to the merits of the case, as indicated by the nationality and wishes of the inhabitants, as far as they could be ascertained.

The Russian Ambassador said that he would report to their Governments.

I said that I would see the Italian and Austrian Ambassadors to-morrow and sound them.

I am, &c.
E. GREY

[35312] No. 713

Sir H. Rax Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 118.)

Sir, *Sophia, July 11, 1913.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 92 of the 30th March, reporting the collective remarks of the representatives of the Great Powers at Sofia, relative to the customs regulations in occupied territories, and to my telegram No. 261 of the 10th instant, I regret to state that not only have the Bulgarian Government given no acknowledgment of the various communications presented by myself and my colleagues, but that they appear to be acting in a manner showing complete indifference to the desires thereon expressed.

In my despatch No. 85 of the 21st May I had the honour to report the restrictions laid upon the sale of imported cigarette papers in the occupied territories. No reply was received to my note of the 31st May to the Bulgarian Government (copy of which was enclosed in my last despatch on this subject), perhaps for reasons suggested in the enclosed memorandum of Vice-Consul Heard, and on the 8th instant I received the following telegram from His Majesty's vice-consul at Cavalla:—

"Authorities Drama announce sale cigarette papers forbidden, and stocks confiscated after 9th July. Mair de Bolton Cigarette Paper Company has large stocks. Drama begs cheap prevent confiscation and obtain free sale goods."

I accordingly addressed a further note, dated the 8th July, copy of which I have the honour to enclose, protesting against the proposed confiscation of imported cigarette papers, and received in reply a copy of circular instructions recently sent to

* Also to Sir G. Buchanan (No. 261).

the customs and excise authorities in the occupied territories, from which it appears that it is proposed to buy in (at prices unstated, but not indeed to be confiscated) all stocks of cigarette papers of foreign origin.

The following extract contains the essential points of this circular:—

"Il est approuvé de faire appliquer dans les territoires nouvellement conquis les lois fiscales ci-dessous:

"La loi des droits d'accise et des patentes sur les boissons, à l'exception de la patente sur les spiritueux concédée en garantie à la Dette publique.

"Les articles sur lesquels l'État a un droit de [privilège] à savoir le papier à cigarettes en feuilles et en tubes, les allumettes et les cartes à jouer ne seront plus admis à l'importation en Bulgarie. Seule, à l'exception de cette dernière, il se trouve des envois de ces articles dans les magasins des douanes, seuls les objets appartenant à être importés par la société et au bonus fourni par celle-ci à l'importateur qui en donnera décharge de cette disposition, et déclarera qu'ils sera accordé pour leur réexportation. En général, les douanes observeront à ce sujet les lois qui sont en vigueur dans le royaume.

"Les articles qui constituent les [privilèges de l'État] et qui auront été retrouvés lors des inventaires seront retenus, parce qu'ils devront être rachetés par l'État, pour les besoins de la population, vous ferez mettre en vente les articles [mais restés] 'privilèges de l'État' à part.

"*Le 15 juin*, 1913."

From the above it will be seen that the Bulgarian Finance Ministry pays no attention to the identic communications, whereby all assent to taxes on spirits are monopolies, and is evidently determined to assimilate the fiscal regime of the new provinces to that of the kingdom.

The following telegram has just been received from the British vice-consul at Dedeagatch, dated the 10th July:—

"Douane insiste outre payement 11 pour cent droits d'entrée nécessaire pour tout marchandise même ayant acquitté intérieurement droits douane. Donne prétexte agir suivant reglements en vigueur. Ressortissants trouvent agissements [illegible] que [? bureau des] contributions indirectes avaient dû viser ou accorder l'an. Prière intervenir."

In view of the attitude hitherto observed by the Bulgarian authorities, it is hardly to be expected that they can be induced to waive these fresh impositions, and I therefore ventured to suggest in my telegram of yesterday that some further collective step on the part of the foreign representatives might perhaps be desirable in order to induce the Bulgarian Government to observe the wishes of the Great Powers.

I have, &c.
H. G. BAX-IRONSIDE.

Enclosure 1 in No. 713.

Sir H. Bax Ironside to Dr. Ivanoff.

M. le Président du Conseil, *Sophia, June 25 (July 8), 1913.*

WITH reference to my note of 30th April (13th May) concerning the restrictions placed on the sale of cigarette papers in the territories newly Bulgarian occupied, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received a telegram from the British vice-consul at Cavalla, stating that the authorities at Drama have announced that the sale of cigarette papers is forbidden, and also that all stocks found after to-morrow will be confiscated.

It is with regret that I note that not only have my previous representations on the subject received no attention at the hands of the Royal Government, but that, on the contrary, the local excise officials are permitted to take action in direct contradiction to the previous assurances of the Bulgarian higher authorities, and in direct contradiction also, as I had the honour to point out in my above-mentioned note to the expressed desire of the Great Powers.

On behalf of the Maison de Bottons Cigarette Paper Company (Limited), who at present own large stocks in the occupied territories which they are not permitted to sell, I feel myself constrained to protest formally to your Excellency against the arbitrary procedure proposed by the authorities at Drama, whilst reserving the right to submit claims for compensation for losses incurred through the action of the Royal Excise authorities which the company may present.

I trust, however, that your Excellency, after considering the case as represented by previous notes, will give such instructions as may result in the removal of the restrictions placed on the sale of cigarette papers by the Ministry of Finance, whose communication upon this feature of their action is still awaited by His Majesty's Legation.

I have, &c.

H. G. BAX IRONSIDE.

Enclosure 2 in No. 713.

Memorandum by Vice-Consul Heard.

IN the course of a conversation yesterday with the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I mentioned the question of the restrictions placed on the sale of cigarette papers in the occupied territories.

M. Politis said that the Minister of Finance seemed unwilling to give a reply on this subject, as the unrestricted sale of cigarette papers might conduce to their contraband introduction into the kingdom. I suggested that a more probable motive for the Ministry's attitude was the consideration that the imported article might compete with home-made paper.

In this suggestion Monsieur Politis appeared to realise very readily that the Ottoman Customs regulations were still being maintained provisionally in the occupied territories, and to have only a vague recollection of the 11th article of the Treaty of London, where specific allusion is made to the subject of these monopolies.

The general impression I have got is that the finance authorities are politely ignoring the wishes of the Powers as expressed in the above communication, where they find them inconvenient.

W. B. HEARD.

Sofia, June 8, 1913.

(35283) No. 714

Sir H. Rumbold to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 31.*)

No. 715

Constantinople, July 21, 1913.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to report that Consul Crow has received a despatch from his colleague at Rodosto, dated the 14th instant, reporting that a Turkish gunboat had arrived at that place and had disembarked 200 soldiers. Mr. Streater stated that a panic then ensued, and the Turkish soldiers had massacred a number of the inhabitants.

Hearing the very serious reports which were current in Constantinople, I decided to send H.M.S. "Imogene" to Rodosto to ascertain the real facts, feeling also that the mere presence of a British man-of-war would produce a sobering effect. Mr. Bullard, 3rd delegate of the Ottoman Embassy, accompanied Captain Wright as Turkish Government Representative. Mr. Streater, who has large commercial interests at Rodosto and would therefore be in a position through his business friends to obtain accurate information,

Captain Wright's report of the events on the evening of the 16th instant, which I have considered reliable, appeared to him to have been [illegible] by the state of affairs on the 17th instant, that by the time the ship's party had reached the town all was quiet and in order, and as you will see from the enclosed extract, the Englishmen above referred to was of the same opinion.

I have also to transmit copy of a communication which I have received from the Armenian Patriarchate on the subject. This report corresponds fairly well with that of Captain Wright and Mr. Bullard, but the highly-

coloured language employed produces an impression considerably worse than the ascertained facts seem to warrant.

The local press publishes unofficial communiqués on the Rodosto incident, in which it is asserted that the Armenians who lost their lives had offered resistance to the troops. There does not seem to be any foundation for this statement.

From the various reports before me it seems quite clear that the Turks wilfully disregarded the agreement verbally made with Mr. Streater that a regular protocol should be drawn up on every occasion when a town or village was to be restored to the Ottoman authorities (but they entered Rodosto [illegible] operations). Mr. Streater expresses the belief that a deliberately concerted system of provocation by gendarmes to provoke an incident that might have been used as a pretext for a declaration of war, and that the other victims were, as any British magistrate would unofficially put it, men who had acted in unworthy capacities for the Bulgars, and that most of them deserved their fate.

The last paragraph of the extract, however, is somewhat ominous, and considering that the troops that were landed were "volunteers," i.e. Kurds, &c., I fear that it is only too probable that the country districts have suffered far more severely than did the town of Rodosto.

It is perhaps worth noting that the Turks have not accused the Bulgarians of having committed any excesses against the Moslems during the occupation of Rodosto.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure 1 in No. 714.

Extract from Mr. Morley to Admiralty, July 17, 1913.

THERE were also (the town only) low-class Armenians, the [illegible] a few Bulgarian gendarmes, all suspected but apparently two were all of the lower class who had generally ruled in authority over Turks and Armenians and had thus earned the animosity of the Turks, except that the lower class could not have done that most of them deserved their fate, though possibly a few of the former were with the gunty.

Taking into consideration the unruly element which enters the town and the circumstances which naturally would not but rouse the ignorant Mussulman populace, I think that the [illegible] way [illegible] things might have been much worse.

None of the better class Armenians whom we met, and we were well on [illegible] what was leading seemed to [illegible] as usual.

I think a feeling of nervousness was the cause of the exaggerated reports which reached Constantinople.

As to the acts of violence I feel sure that without any doubt things may have happened there which one would not have taken part in, such as [illegible] the *les fabriques* that [illegible] which was [illegible] and as mentioned [illegible].

Enclosure 2 in No. 714.

Reports of Special Correspondents attached to the Balkan Armies.

(1.)

LA catastrophe [illegible] a bord d'un croiseur [illegible] passagers [illegible] Rodosto.

Lundi dernier 200 soldats turcs sous le commandement [illegible] bord d'un croiseur [illegible] passagers [illegible] Rodosto.

A peine arrivés ils se mettent à courir [illegible] chez elle.

Au moment même [illegible] Effendi, sujet bulgare [illegible]

Des soldats turcs lui coupent les oreilles et les portent à une femme arménienne, qu'ils menacent de la tuer si elle ne leur présentait la pointe des baïonnettes. On assure que la pauvre femme a éprouvé une si vive émotion qu'elle se trouve en danger de mort.

Au même moment, sont également assassinés deux gendarmes arméniens, sujets bulgares.

Puis les volontaires, divisés en plusieurs groupes—chaque groupe ayant à sa tête quatre à cinq bachi bouzouks—assaillent les Arméniens se trouvant au marché et en massacrent huit.

Heureusement, les Turcs ayant commencé avant l'heure leur projet de massacre et de pillage, une extermination complète a pu être évitée par le fait que les Arméniens s'étaient réfugiés dans divers quartiers.

Les volontaires, grâce à l'intervention de quelques scélérats musulmans et grecs, et sous prétexte de rechercher des armes, et les soldats bulgares, réussi à pénétrer dans plusieurs maisons arméniennes, où ils font connaître des otages.

Les personnes travaillant aux champs, parmi lesquelles se trouvent des soldats arméniens libérés, sont arrêtées à Andrinople et atrocement assassinées par la populace féroce.

Comme il est défendu à ceux qui se sont réfugiés de sortir de la ville, de nombreuses personnes—femmes et enfants—se sont adressées aujourd'hui à nous pour réclamer notre intervention auprès des autorités, qui leur ont promis depuis trois à quatre jours. Les démarches à cet effet sont en cours.

A en juger par les apparences et par les assurances notables, Rodosto serait, sans la vigilance des Arméniens, devenu, d'accord avec Adana.

Devant Arméniens sujets étrangers, Moyses Bey Hagopovitch, le Dr Moysès Maghakian, Sa Sainteté Hagopovitch, le vice-consul de Perse MM. Richard et Edmond Dussy, l'église des Lazaristes, ainsi que le corps consulaire, etc., en accordant asile aux Arméniens, prévenu un massacre général. Il faut voir dans cette préservation l'intervention évidente de la Providence.

Des apparences connues ci-dessus, il est permis de conclure que le danger a aujourd'hui disparu. Le consul d'Angleterre nous a déjà donné même assurance.

Il convient de revenir sur la protection accordée en ces jours terribles aux Arméniens de Rodosto par les consuls étrangers.

Nous nous faisons un devoir de leur exprimer ici notre profonde reconnaissance.

(2.)

Aujourd'hui, dans l'après-midi, trois nouveaux arrivés à Rodosto, en même temps que des autorités civiles et militaires, 320 gendarmes et près de 15 soldats.

Dans les rues nous remarquons des traces sanglantes. Les boutiques probablement des Arméniens étaient fermées. Sur le chemin conduisant à notre vicariat, nous rencontrons quelques Arméniens. La peur des massacres avait épouvanté la population, et notre présence encouragea et consola. Des prêtres et des laïques, membres du conseil local, s'empressèrent de se rendre au vicariat, où, les larmes aux yeux, ils nous exprimèrent leurs remerciements et leur reconnaissance pour les mesures prises par le Patriarcat.

Obéissant à des motifs impérieux, nous nous sommes rendus deux fois au cimetière arménien où se trouvent rassemblés les cadavres des Arméniens assassinés dans la ville.

Aujourd'hui, en deux fois, des alentours de Rodosto, ces cadavres ont été apportés chargés sur des voitures. Ils étaient en pleine putréfaction. L'une des victimes avait les oreilles coupées, une autre les pieds, une autre le crâne fendu à coups de hache—spectacle horrible, que plusieurs consuls ont été incapables de supporter.

Dans le cimetière, les hommes rassemblés d'un côté, les femmes de l'autre, sanglotaient.

Étouffant mes larmes, mes sanglots, je ne sus trouver à la force d'adresser quelques paroles de consolation à ces infortunés en proie à un suprême désespoir.

Aujourd'hui, à une heure de la ville, près du port de la source de Tavanli, ont été assassinés Karnik Zavtarian, et un soldat arménien nommé Yervante, fait prisonnier à Andrinople.

Vers le soir, on apportait au vicariat la nouvelle que les autorités avaient embauché des gens pour enterrer sur place les victimes tombées dans les champs et faire ainsi disparaître les traces des meurtres; 30 piastres sont payées par cadavre. Le bruit a couru avec persistance que quelques scélérats musulmans allaient la nuit tirer des

coups de feu dans les quartiers arméniens, pour effrayer les habitants et provoquer un massacre.

Nous avons aussitôt envoyé notre vicaire auprès du mutessarif pour déjouer ces machinations infâmes et au lendemain de notre démarche, afin de mettre à l'abri quelques gens larmes, l'effet de nos recommandations a été assez grand. Dans la recherche des victimes tombées dans les champs, le nombre de passages a été de 10 à 20 pour que puissent leur être rendus les derniers devoirs selon la religion.

Un takrir dans ce sens, ainsi que dans le nôtre, a été déjà remis aux mesures propres à garantir la vie et la sécurité des Arméniens, a été remis au mutessarif.

Le mutessarif nous a promis de rassurer sans retard la population et de mettre le lendemain matin à notre disposition quelques gendarmes pour nous assister dans la recherche des victimes tombées hors de la ville.

Nous avons reçu les nouvelles contradictoires au sujet d'un danger à Malgara. Nous vous informons aussitôt de tout ce qui viendra à notre connaissance.

Nous donnons ci-dessous la liste des victimes enterrées jusqu'à présent:

Eghia Sakezlia
Oskar (prisonnier), à Scutari.
Eghia Dikran
Sarkis Mardirossian
Krikor Kenstelekdjian
Kapriel Sarkissian (de Larissa)
Garabet Abrahamian
Krikor Arsenian
Siméon Garabedian (le Boiteux)
Bedros Dikranian
Garabet Koulakian
Garabet Pakdjian
Bedros (le Tailleur).
Arakel (prisonnier)
Ohannès Maroukian

[35284] No. 715.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 31.*)

(No. 646.)

Sir, *Constantinople, July 29, 1915.*

WITH reference to Sir G. Lowther's despatch No. 465 of the 1st May, I have the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's consul-general at Smyrna, reporting further on the case of Castellorizo.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 715.

Consul-General Heathcote Smith to Mr Marling.

(No. 60.)

Sir, *Smyrna, July 17, 1915.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that Mr. Vice-Consul Biliotti, of Rhodes, has addressed me a further despatch dealing with events at Castellorizo subsequent to my last despatch to you, No. 28 of the 6th May.

He states that at the end of [illegible] the Hellenic steamer 'Macedonia' called at Castellorizo and embarked the twenty-four Greek boys, possibly thirty-four, Ottoman officials of the island, the kaimakam included, all of whom had been kept in confinement by the insurgents. These officials were under the armed guard of the insurgents while on board, and were embarked for the Piræus under, it is believed, direct orders from Athens.

Their families are still detained on the island.

The insurgents fly the Greek flag over the island and their Government consists of six persons chosen amongst themselves. They exact heavy fees, it is said, for permission to leave the island, sometimes refusing to grant them, and anarchy still prevails in Candia.

I have, &c.
C. E. HEATHCOTE SMITH.

35288] No. 716

Mr. Marling, Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 650.)

Constantinople, July 22, 1913.

Sir,

WITH reference to my telegram No. 343 of the 15th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of the Turkish memorandum made to the foreign missions at Constantinople somewhat unusual two years after their departure respecting the destruction of Moslem property of which the Bulgarian troops are alleged by Izzet Pasha to have been guilty in the occupied territories on the south side of the Enos-Midia line. Thus it will be seen that the sole object of the memorandum of the committee to which the powers have already given credit by the stories of Bulgarian atrocities at Nigrita, Serres, and Demir Hissar is to divide the Turks and to justify the further reoccupation of Adrianople. The campaign of atrocity mongering has been admirably, but by very obvious, means and it only is allowed to pass without the public to-day of the accused Bulgarian excesses of articles calculated to excite popular feeling against them. I perceive, I may note in what purports to be the protocol, which I have received from Constantinople, that the arrangement made verbally with M. Naoumoff for the withdrawal of the occupied districts to Turkey, by M. Sava Stoeff, the Bulgarian Governor of Constantinople, which finally admits the destruction of a large number of Moslem villages, does not appear to have been mentioned as being in accordance with military usage. I enclose a copy of this letter, and also of a further communiqué announcing the evacuation of Midia for the sole purpose of pillage and arson, and also the arrangement about Mustafa Pasha.

I do not suggest for a moment that the conduct of the Bulgarian troops has been blameless. There is, indeed, every reason to believe that burning and plundering of Moslem property, which took place during the winter, when the Bulgarian army suffered severely from cold and hunger, and naturally demolished the wooden houses occupied by the Moslem refugees to provide themselves with fuel, is the work of the Bulgarian army during its retreat before the evacuation of the occupied districts. There is, so far as I can ascertain, no kind of serious evidence for this, and the fact that M. Naoumoff should have arranged for the signature of a protocol showing the state in which the districts were handed back by the Bulgarian to the Ottoman authorities seems to militate very strongly against the likelihood of the Bulgarians having recently committed the excesses of which the Turks accuse them. Mere facts, of course, will have little weight against the assurances and stories of atrocity which the Young Turks, who are well aware that the strongest weapon they can forge to induce the Powers to condone their violation of the Treaty of London is excessive anti-Bulgarian feeling in Europe.

As I pointed out in my telegram No. 358 of 22nd instant, this campaign may have other and serious consequences. The Turkish authorities are now hastily sending back to their villages large numbers of Moslem refugees, and these people will return to find their houses destroyed while in many cases those of their Christian neighbours remain untouched. With their minds inflamed with these stories of Bulgarian excesses, they may, and probably will, wreak vengeance on the Christians. Any atrocities that may be thus engendered in this manner will in due course be ascribed by the Turks to the Bulgarian bands, whose readiness to massacre their fellow Christians has been proved by the recent events at Serres and Nigrita.

Such Bulgarian bands are already accused (enclosure 3 of this despatch) of having set fire to the Mussulman quarter of Malgara, but it is significant that although in this communiqué it is explicitly stated that the Armenian quarter has been saved, the delegate of the Armenian patriarchate was not allowed to visit the town.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING

Enclosure 1 in No. 716.

Translation of Official Memorandum issued by the Ottoman Government.

SELON une enquête faite à la hâte, le reste [illegible] les Bulgares à l'exception de Pirgos, Semaklı et Sarı. De ces [illegible] encore il y a dix-huit que certains quartiers seulement, toutes les autres parties étant en ruines. Aux environs de Lozova-Feroe, les quartiers musulmans des villages Lozova, Sarbachi, Papasburgas, Kestanlik, Tchanakdja Ogli, Yol Medje, Gueuserke, Ipsiz, Gorukh, Cavalli, Mezé-Tomar, Velikeny, Boyazkeny, Asmakeny, Mestanli, Sidjilat, Dermen, Belekesskeuy, Turbelère, Akyakeny, Hatchlar, Jérikos, Pomak Bechi, dans quelques-uns desquels il y avait de 200 à 300 maisons, ont été brûlés. Chacun de ces villages comprenait plus de 200 maisons. Les régions situées au sud-ouest de Lozova-Feroe sont les suivantes, dont chacune est de même. Les villages [illegible] ont également souffert des mêmes dévastations. Les cimetières musulmans ont été [illegible] tombales détruites, et les [illegible] mosquées et écoles ont été [illegible]. Deux pages [illegible] permettra de voir exactement les actes de dévastation.

Enclosure 2 in No. 716.

Extract from the "Liberté" of July 10, p. 3.

LES DÉVASTATIONS OTTOMANES AUX PYRÉNÉES

VENDREDI dernier [illegible] a eu [illegible] très importante aux Ministères pour préciser l'attitude de la France et pour arrêter les mesures à prendre. On [illegible] les rapports envoyés par les Ambassadeurs ottomans sur l'attitude des Gouvernements auprès desquels ils sont accrédités dans la question de la réoccupation de la Thrace. Un [illegible] sera communiquée aux différentes Chancelleries européennes par les Ambassadeurs [illegible].

Nous apprenons, d'un côté, qu'il existe [illegible] les diverses phases des négociations de Londres. Ensuite on fait ressortir les hésitations de la Bulgarie dans l'exécution des conditions de paix qui apparaissent dans la [illegible] internationale de la Bulgarie. Mais [illegible] on insiste particulièrement sur le fait que la Bulgarie, après la conclusion de la paix a traité les Turcs [illegible] d'une façon indigne d'un État civilisé. Les crimes et les [illegible] commis par les Bulgares sont énumérés avec la déclaration que l'Empire ottoman, soucieux d'assurer la tranquillité, ne peut rester indifférent en face de ces atrocités. Finalement on relève que la dernière note bulgare, avec laquelle on a traité à Londres, n'existe plus. Par conséquent la Porte regarde le traité de paix comme n'ayant été signé que sous la contrainte et se réserve de revendiquer une pleine liberté d'action pour l'avenir.

Enclosure 3 in No. 716.

Extract from the "Turquie" of July 21, 1913.

LES DÉPRÉDATIONS DES BANDES BULGARES EN THRACE

DES télégrammes officiels portent que nombre de bandes bulgares, dont les hommes habillés comme les Grecs, commettent des déprédations de tout le front de l'armée Impériale.

Une bande bulgare composée de 200 hommes pilla et détruit les villages. Quarante-trois de ces individus viennent d'être arrêtés et lorsqu'ils furent interrogés, ils ont fait des aveux.

Une autre bande de 300 hommes se trouve aussi dans ces parages. Les mesures requises ont été prises pour l'anéantir.

La commune de Mugara est le fait des comitadjis bulgares habilles en paysans. Malgré tous les efforts déployés, des édifices appartenant à des musulmans et préservés d'une manière ou d'une autre les dernières destructions ainsi que les mosquées, ont été complètement détruits.

Le quartier européen a été sauvé. Le fait que toutes les maisons brûlées appartenaient à des musulmans ne peut nullement laisser croire qu'il s'agissait d'un complot des musulmans et des troupes contre les Arméniens.

Seule la population musulmane comme il ressort des communications officielles, a eu à supporter des horreurs par cette guerre.

[35316] No. 717

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 31.*)

(No. 122)

Sir, *Sophia, July 24, 1913*

ON the receipt, on the 15th instant, of your telegram No. 143 relative to the atrocities reported to have been committed by Bulgarian troops at Serres and Demir-Hissar, I immediately spoke to the Bulgarian Prime Minister in the sense of your instructions.

I enclose a copy of a note which I have received in reply stating, as you will note that so far as the Bulgarian Government is at present informed, such measures of repression as may have been applied to the Greek population of the above localities was provoked by the armed aggression of the inhabitants, and promising a strict enquiry into the facts.

I have likewise the honour to enclose copy of a statement addressed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to all the foreign representatives at Sophia dealing with the same matter, and giving details of outrages committed by the Greek forces.*

I have, &c.
H. G. BAX-IRONSIDE.

P.S. Two further communications on the subject of Greek atrocities &c., since received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, are also enclosed.*

H. G. B.-I.

Enclosure in No. 717

Note verbale.

EN réponse à la note remise par l'honorable Légation Royale de Grande-Bretagne, le 24/5 juillet courant, par laquelle elle demande attribuées aux soldats bulgares à Serres et à Demir-Hissar, le Ministère des Affaires Étrangères a l'honneur de faire communiquer d'après les renseignements très succincts dont il dispose jusqu'à présent, ce qui suit :—

La ville de Serres est peuplée en majeure partie, ainsi que la Légation Royale ne l'ignore pas, par une population grecque particulièrement exaltée et fanatique, et qui était entretenue ces derniers temps, par suite de l'agitation systématique exercée parmi elle, dans un état d'esprit de rébellion latente contre les autorités bulgares. Cette situation était singulièrement aggravée par le fait que presque tous les habitants étaient pourvus d'armes.

Aussi, le 22 juin (5 juillet), lorsque les troupes bulgares, se repliant devant un adversaire très supérieur en forces, prenaient leurs dispositions pour quitter la ville, une fusillade éclata. Des coups de feu furent tirés des maisons contre des soldats et des fonctionnaires. Lorsque les colonnes arrière-garde commencèrent à traverser la ville elles eurent à livrer de véritables combats à soutenir contre les habitants embusqués dans les demeures. Vu les circonstances dans lesquelles ces événements survenaient, le fait que les autorités avaient quitté Serres, les préoccupations particulières du commandant militaire en ce moment l'honorable légation comprendra aisément que le Ministère Royal ne dispose pas actuellement de détails plus précis sur les combats qui se sont déroulés et sur l'étendue de la répression, si ce n'est le fait que la retraite de nos soldats n'a pas été suspendue et qu'il y en a eu une

* Not printed.

En ce qui concerne Demir-Hissar, le Gouvernement Royal sait toujours avec la même absence de détails que le 23 juin (6 juillet), les autorités militaires, les habitants grecs prirent les armes, massacrèrent tous les Bulgares, les soldats qui tombèrent sous le poignard, mais aussi les malades dans leur lit. Un convoi sanitaire venant d'arriver de Serres, et plusieurs autres les maisons bulgares. Ils s'installèrent ensuite en force, autour de la ville. Le lendemain une colonne bulgare ayant reçu l'ordre, dut se frayer passage en combattant, parvint à Démir-Hissar. Elle essuya le feu de nombreux ennemis tirant des maisons. Un certain nombre d'immeubles, parmi lesquels des églises, furent pris. Les armes à la main et l'on n'a pu encore savoir le chiffre approximatif des pertes.

Tel est l'ensemble des faits connus à l'heure actuelle par le Gouvernement Royal. L'honorable légation voudra bien apprécier si ces actes de répression ont été ou non provoqués par l'attitude de la population.

Le Gouvernement Royal a cherché en fait, à tenir compte, dans ses appréciations des événements, des circonstances pour lesquelles la population a pu être entraînée à commettre des excès regrettables et il a été amené à conclure que les mesures de répression ont dépassé les nécessités de la défense et de la légitime répression mêmes sous les troubles de la guerre. Il a ordonné des enquêtes sévères et a prescrit à ses autorités militaires, de cesser les opérations militaires. Le Gouvernement Royal croit pouvoir affirmer qu'il a agi dans le but d'éviter à la population bulgare établie sur ses propres territoires de se conformer à ses devoirs d'humanité et de légalité et de respecter la souveraineté.

Sophia, ce 6 (19) juillet, 1913.

[35317] No. 718

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 123)

Sir, *Sophia, July 24, 1913*

I HAVE the honour to enclose herewith copy of a circular communication addressed by the Bulgarian Government to the foreign representatives at Sophia, respecting the advance of the Turkish forces into the neighbourhood of Lake Bourgas, and the outrages committed by them at and around Rousdjouk.

Enclosed is also copy of the telegram which the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs has addressed to the Grand Vizier protesting against the aggression and demanding the withdrawal of the invading force.

A further communication, copy of which is also enclosed, gives particulars of Turkish excesses committed by the detachments of Bulgarians at Kesarli.

The latest intelligence, contained in a telegram from the British consular agent at Bourgas, is to the effect that the Turkish forces have crossed the Bulgarian frontier further afield up the valley of the Tundja (Tundja Orman Yambo). The note from the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, copy of which is enclosed, complains of this more serious violation of Bulgarian territory, and appeals to His Majesty's Government to intervene to prevent the infringement of the treaty of peace concluded under the auspices of the Great Powers.

I have &c.
H. G. BAX IRONSIDE.

P.S. Copy of a further telegram from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Grand Vizier is also enclosed.

H. G. B.-I.

Enclosure 1 in No. 718.

Note verbale.

FAISANT suite à la communication verbale faite par son Excellence M. Gueschoff Ministre des Affaires Étrangères et les Cultes, le Ministère Royal des Affaires Etrangères a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de la légation ce qui suit :—

Les Turcs, après avoir occupé la gare d'Ouzoun Keupru se sont mis en marche hier, vers Koukli Bourgas. Arrivés à proximité du port sur la Maritza, leur infanterie

et leur artillerie ont ouvert le feu sur nos troupes assurant la garde du pont et auxquelles s'était joint un bataillon ayant battu en retraite sur Kouléli-Bourgas. Ces faibles forces ne pouvant retenir la poussée des Turcs, se sont repliées sur la rive droite de la Maritza, vers Andrinople.

Le commandant des troupes turques, qui avait à plusieurs reprises donné les assurances les plus tranquillisantes au général commandant nos forces, a répondu à l'officier bulgare chargé de l'informer, à son quartier, près de Lulé-Bourgas, de la progression des troupes ottomanes de Kotoch-Ouzoun-Keupru, qu'il lui était impossible de les retenir, nos soldats ayant fait usage de bombes contre eux, ce qui est tout à fait inexact.

Nos autorités militaires considèrent comme certain que les Turcs continueront leur marche sur Andrinople, en forces très supérieures et opéreront en belligérants.

La population d'Oléo s'enfuit, quittant tout, mais sans réussir toujours à échapper à l'attente des Turcs qui massacrent sans distinction d'âge ni de sexe, tout ce qu'ils rencontrent sur leur route. Les soldats faits prisonniers par eux sont tués sur l'heure.

A Rodosto, un massacre général de la population chrétienne, Bulgares, Grecs, Arméniens, étrangers, a eu lieu à l'entrée des troupes turques. Le sous-préfet bulgare qui cherchait à rallier les fonctionnaires touchant la remise de la ville, a été tué au moment où il se portait à la rencontre des officiers turcs devant la préfecture. Son cadavre a été odieusement mutilé.

Enclosure 2 in No. 718.

Telegram from Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Grand Vizier.

Sophia, le 8 (21) juillet, 1913.

NOS autorités militaires et civiles nous informent que les troupes Impériales ottomanes franchissant la ligne établie par le Traité de Londres, ont envahi le territoire bulgare dans la Thrace où elles se livrent à toutes sortes d'excès et de violences. N'ayant été provoquées par aucune démarche hostile de la Bulgarie, venant même immédiatement après l'arrivée à Constantinople de notre collègue dont la Porte avait demandé l'envoi pour régulariser son désir de rétablir ses relations amicales avec le royaume, ces envahissements n'ont pu être aussi injustifiables qu'inattendus. Le Gouvernement Royal, conscient de la nécessité commune aux deux États de resserrer, après une crise douloureuse, leurs liens de solidarité naturelle, se voit obligé d'élever la protestation la plus haute et la plus énergique contre cette atteinte portée par les troupes ottomanes à l'intégrité de notre territoire et de demander le retrait immédiat des envahisseurs. Le Gouvernement Royal espère que la sagesse de la Porte prévaudra contre ces mauvaises passions, et épargnera à nos deux peuples, si faits pour s'entendre, de nouvelles épreuves.

Enclosure 3 in No. 718.

Notice.

LE commandant de Dedéagatch fait connaître que deux villages bulgares des environs d'Ipsala ont été incendiés par les Turcs.

Les villages de Lisghiar, Kadikouy, Kalivra Eylagana, Hmit, Has Kurtulu, Dourvandji arrondissement de Malgara, ont été pillés et incendiés. La population de l'important village Bulgarkeuy arrondissement de Keschan, a été massacrée, le village pillé et brûlé. Également pillé le village de Har la-Gunu.

Environ 800 familles des arrondissements de Malgara, Keschan, Ouzoun-Keupru sont arrivées à Andrinople, fuyant devant les Turcs. D'autres fugitifs en grand nombre les suivent.

Dans tout l'arrondissement d'Ouzoun-Keupru, les Turcs, régulier et bachi-bouzouks, se sont livrés à de graves excès.

Le 10 (23) juillet, 1913.

Enclosure 4 in No. 718.

M. Chenaf to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

M. le Ministre, *Sophia, le 10 (23) juillet, 1913.*

UNE dépêche reçue au quartier général fait connaître que les troupes ottomanes ont franchi aujourd'hui la ancienne frontière turco-bulgare, et ont occupé jusqu'à présent les villages de Vakouf, Soudjak et Golem-Dervent. La population est prise à la panique la plus folle, fuit vers l'intérieur.

En portant ce qui précède à votre connaissance, j'ai l'honneur de vous prier de vouloir bien informer votre Gouvernement, et le prier, au nom du Gouvernement Royal bulgare, de vouloir bien faire sans retard et dans la forme la plus catégorique, celle qu'elle jugera appropriée, les démarches nécessaires auprès de la Sublime Porte pour le retrait immédiat des troupes ottomanes.

Le Gouvernement Royal est convaincu que la marche en avant de ces troupes, surtout dans la forme nouvelle qu'elle revêt, ne saurait passer inaperçue auprès de votre Gouvernement, tant à cause des nouveaux troubles qu'elle est susceptible de provoquer dans la péninsule balkanique que par l'atteinte qu'elle constitue au traité de paix conclu sous l'égide et grâce à la bienveillante entremise des Grandes Puissances.

Je prie, &c.

N. GHENADIEF.

Enclosure 5 in No. 718.

Telegram from Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Grand Vizier.

Sophia, le 10 (23) juillet, 1913.

UNE dépêche reçue au quartier général informe que les troupes ottomanes ont franchi aujourd'hui la ancienne frontière turco-bulgare vers Kizil-Agatch et ont occupé jusqu'à présent les villages de Vakouf, Soudjak et Golem-Dervent.

Revenant sur les considérations que j'ai eu l'honneur de exposer à votre Altesse dans mon précédent télégramme, je la prie de bien vouloir donner les ordres les plus urgents et les plus catégoriques pour le retrait immédiat des troupes ottomanes dont la marche en avant, surtout dans la forme nouvelle qu'elle revêt, est susceptible de créer à nos deux pays de graves complications et de mettre pour longtemps à l'établissement entre eux des relations de bon voisinage et de bonne entente si naturellement commandées par leurs intérêts les plus essentiels.

[35318] No. 719.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey. (*Received July 31.*)

(No. 124.)

Sir, *Sophia, July 24, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of an identic communication forwarded by the Bulgarian Government to the legations of the Great Powers at Sophia reporting the manner in which the population of Northern Bulgaria is stated to have been ill-treated by the Roumanian troops.

I have, &c.

H. G. BAX-IRONSIDE.

Enclosure in No. 719.

Note addressed to the Representatives of the Great Powers at Sophia.

ON communique de source sûre :—

Dans le département de Vratza, les soldats roumains s'approprient les biens privés sans payer ni délivrer de reçus. Des femmes et des jeunes filles ont subi les derniers outrages.

A Vratza même, 30,000 soldats ont été logés, le 18 et le 19 juillet, dans les maisons privées, quoique la ville possède des casernes suffisantes et des édifices très commodes

pour bivouaquer La nuit, les soldats roumains chassèrent de leurs maisons les hommes, sous prétexte d'opérer des perquisitions, et violèrent des femmes et des jeunes filles Des vols ont été commis dans les maisons et dans les magasins. Toutes les provisions ont été réquisitionnées pour les troupes roumaines et les habitants restent affamés. Il y a eu des tués parmi les habitants et parmi les soldats bessis.

Dans le département de Plevna, les soldats roumains pillent les gerbes de blé pour nourrir les chevaux, font battre les paysans et leur volent les montres et l'argent. Toutes sortes de violences auraient été commises dans la ville même

A Roustchouk, une douzaine de cavaliers roumains firent, le 19 juillet, leur apparition devant le préfet du département et devant le maire et demandèrent un document certifiant qu'ils ont été à Roustchouk, après quoi ils quittèrent la ville

Des soldats roumains coupèrent le fil télégraphique entre Plevna et Loveteh

Des détachements de reconnaissance parcourent la vallée du Vit, vers le Balkan, dans l'intention probable de se traverser pour couper les communications par la ligne ferrée Sophia Philippopoli

Le 18 juillet, les troupes roumaines qui se rendirent à Varna, levèrent le drapeau roumain sur l'hôtel de la municipalité et publièrent une proclamation signée du commandant des troupes d'occupation, le Général Calcer, dans laquelle il est dit que depuis le 18 juillet Varna fait partie du territoire roumain Les habitants sont invités à obéir aux lois roumaines à remettre les armes qu'ils possèdent, à ne pas communiquer avec le monde extérieur, &c

Lorsque les troupes partirent, on constata que des soldats bicyclistes, qui avaient logé dans les casernes de l'infanterie, avaient troué le portrait de Sa Majesté le Roi et brisé les vitres des soldats bulgares, qu'ils avaient pillées.

Sophia le 8 (21) *juillet*, 1913.

[35318] No. 720.

Sir H Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey —(*Received July* 31)

(No 12)

Sir, *Sophia, July* 24, 1913

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of an identic communication forwarded by the Bulgarian Government to the legations of the Great Powers at Sophia, in which various excesses, stated to have been committed by the Servian troops in Macedonia are enumerated

They mention that refugees are now arriving in thousands from Macedonia, and that the stories they relate would appear to indicate that the Bulgarian population in the regions now occupied by the Serbs have, as a matter of fact, been subjected to horrors rivalling even the deeds of the Servian troops

I have, &c

H O. BAX-IRONSIDE.

Enclosure in No. 720.

Note communicated to the Representatives of the Great Powers at Sophia

LES renseignements officiels parvenus à Sophia disent

"Lorsque les troupes bulgares quittèrent leurs positions au sud du village de Vidovichté, 133 soldats, blessés et malades, restèrent au village de Petchena. Une cinquantaine d'entre eux purent s'enfuir à l'approche de la cavalerie serbe, les autres furent impitoyablement massacrés, nonobstant le pavillon de la Croix Rouge qui flottait sur l'hôpital.

"Les soldats serbes perçoivent un impôt d'au moins 20 fr par homme dans les villages qu'ils traversent

"En se retirant sur la rive droite du Vardar, les troupes serbes incendièrent les villages bulgares de Tremnik, Pardjevo, Bezovichta, Tchatchevo. Gorno-Dissani, Dolno-Dissani, &c.

"Les soldats serbes violèrent la plupart des femmes des villages bulgares de Berovo Vinitza, Leska, et enlevèrent les hommes.

"Au village de Zlatovo, arrondissement de Kratovo, les soldats serbes enlevèrent douze femmes. La femme du prêtre Constantin fut violée par un grand nombre

d'officiers et de soldats au point qu'elle expira sur le lieu ses deux garçons furent massacrés et sa fille, âgée de 15 ans, fut enlevée.

"La femme du prêtre Alexo, du village de Chlegovo, celle du prêtre de Kokoch et celles des deux prêtres Stoitché et Panzo, de Pavlechantzi, du prêtre de Chopsko-Kozare, du prêtre Nicolas, de Sopot, et la femme du vicaire de Kratovo furent, entre autres, enlevées par les soldats serbes.

"La famille de Zaphir Miloscheff, du village de Maleno, arrondissement d'Uscub, composée de vingt-deux personnes, fut amenée on ne sait où, de même que la famille du notable Trajko, du village de Krilatitza, arrondissement de Kratovo.

"Au village de Pavlechantzi arrondissement de Koumanovo, les femmes de sept familles furent enlevées.

"Aux villages d'Erdjeh et Bogoslovetz les soldats serbes violèrent des fillettes de 9 ans."

Sophia, le 7 (20) *juillet*, 1913.

[35290] No. 721.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey (*Received July* 31)

(No 653.)

Sir, *Constantinople July* 24, 1913

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's vice-consul at Monastir reporting on the situation there and the activities of Bulgarian bands.

I have, &c

CHARLES M MARLING

Enclosure 1 in No. 721

Vice-Consul Greig to Sir G Lowther

(No. 42 Confidential)

Sir, *Monastir, July* 5 1913

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency on current events in this district as follows

The recent encounters between the troops of the Allies have been followed by the arrest of all the most prominent members of the Bulgarian community in this town. The Exarchist Metropolitan and his Archimandrite are confined to the Archbishop's house *

The extensive Bulgarian quarter is being carefully patrolled

The authorities have searched the houses of François le Cloch, a dragoman of the Austrian consulate, and of Father Proy an Austrian protégé and assortment of Macedonian origin, and strongly Bulgarian sympathies who is head of the French mission The search in Proy's house led to the arrest of his servant, a well known komitaji named Ilo, who was found to be in possession of several rifles and of another notorious Bulgarian komitaji of Ekshisou (Florina) named Panzo

From the Ostrida and Resna districts, which have always been strongholds of Bulgarian propaganda, some two hundred persons, arrested on suspicion, have been brought to Monastir since the 30th June and imprisoned

A leading Voivode of the Florina district, Lioudi, has also been arrested here.

The arrested persons do not, however, include any of the Voivodes known to have recently been at Sophia, or to have taken part in the congress of Voivodes in Thrace or Vienna, and their activity has probably been confined to fostering discontent locally, keeping alive a belief in the speedy overthrow of the Servian occupation, and supplying the Bulgarian press with accounts of persecution likely to stir public opinion

Petre Tsanoulef, who left Monastir in February to intrigue at the Bulgarian Court on behalf of the Bulgars of Western Macedonia, is a much more dangerous man. In the last days of the Turkish regime his influence was adding fair to eclipse that of Milan Matof I am informed that he proceeded from Sophia to Vienna, accompanied by the Voivode Pavle Cristof, and thence to Valona, and that he is now at work amongst the Ghegs along the line of Servian occupation west and north-west of Ochrida His purpose no doubt is to form Albanian bands, and by the threat of their

* In view of reports that the Archbishop and his Archimandrite are being cruelly treated, I have visited them in their confinement. They complain that much of their private property has been confiscated Apart from their complete isolation they are living in comfort.

co-operation with the Macedonian organisation to compel the Serbs to reinforce their western garrisons, and so weaken the forces available against the Bulgarian armies.

Sandanski, who has likewise been at Valona, is believed to be organising Albanian co-operation in the south to embarrass the Greeks in the same way.

It is now suspected that the gathering of tribesmen at Mat, mentioned in my last despatch, is due to Austro-Bulgarian initiative supported by the Valona Cabinet and directed against the Serbs. But it is not anticipated that there will be any serious local Bulgaro-Albanian movement unless the Serbs and Greeks meet with serious reverses in the field. The ruling class in Albania is rather interested in avoiding any premature activity which might result in its territory being again occupied, and its prestige still further weakened.

There have been increasing signs of the steady undermining of Servian influence in Albania. M. Balukshitch, the Servian consular officer, who has frequently been employed to negotiate with the Beys, left Monastir a few days ago for the purpose of placing Servian influence on a firmer footing at Elbassan, but has returned without visiting that town. I learn from a reliable source that he received an intimation from some of the more important notables that his presence there would not be welcome. A similar warning is believed to have reached him when about to leave Salonica for Valona a fortnight ago, and that visit was likewise abandoned. It is reported too that those Albanians, especially Christians, who were conspicuous in rendering assistance to the Serbs during their occupation, are being singled out for persecution in the districts of Elbassan, Kavaja, Ljushna, and Nuzakja (between Ljushna and Fieri). It would appear that the Christian village of Stermen (11 miles south-west of Elbassan) has been destroyed by Moslems out of revenge for the destruction by the Serbs of the neighbouring Moslem village of Stupan, and at Arkaj (4 miles south-west of Kavaja) the Orthodox Church is said to have been raided.

Mahmud Bey, an Albanian notable of Ochrida, has like M. Balukshitch been obliged to abandon an attempt to penetrate in Servian interests to Elbassan, whilst Saadullah Effendi, an influential notable of Albanian origin residing here, has rejected the overtures of the Servian authorities, who proposed to entrust to him a mission in Central Albania.

At Elbassan the anti-Servian clique is evidently in the ascendant, although Akif Pasha, the Mutessarif, has probably not whole-heartedly embraced either cause. From opponents of the Servian propaganda I learn that he is viewed by them with great disfavour, and that they hope to make his position untenable.

The Serbs are naturally much annoyed at the course of events in Albania, and are beginning to admit that many of their so-called supporters are traitors. This irritation is especially acute against Ismail Bey Bolatinatz, whose family is one of those which has been receiving allowances out of Servian funds. As reported in my despatch No. 36 of the 14th June Ismail Komal is I believe marked out for assassination by the Serbs. I have of late frequently heard statements in official quarters to the effect that they would welcome any act of Albanian aggression which would afford the pretext for a renewed, and perhaps permanent, occupation of Albanian territory "to which the Powers could have no reasonable objection." There is a very general belief amongst Servian officials here that one result of a victory over Bulgaria would be the acquisition by Servia of an outlet on the Adriatic.

Military information.

The two regiments of the independent Morava brigade continue to have their headquarters at Dibre and Ochrida respectively. The rest of the troops in this district are still stationed as reported in my despatch No. 35 of the 1st June. There are supplementary detachments, of which I was not then aware, at Perlepé and Krushevo, consisting of a company each. These detachments probably belong to the 3rd battalion of the 16th regiment.

No war news is reaching Monastir except that contained in the Salonica press and official bulletins printed here, which contain nothing but accounts of Bulgarian reverses.

The Austrian consulate is busily spreading reports of Servian reverses. The difference of attitude between the Albanian Moslems and the Turkish Moslems is very marked. The latter dread a Bulgarian triumph. The former, who have been exploited by Austro-Bulgar propaganda, ardently desire it.

Telegrams in cypher are being refused.

I have, &c.
C. A. GREIG.

Enclosure 2 in No. 721.

Vice-Consul Greig to Sir G. Lowther.

(No. 43. Confidential.)
Sir, *Monastir, July 7, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that simultaneously with the fighting between Tikvesh and Gheveheli Bulgarian bands are said to be operating in the Servian zone, and are reported to be in the Perlepe and Morihovo districts. I am informed that they have raided two Patriarchist villages, Kokre and Dolge situated about 12 miles south-east of Perlepé. At Polchista in the Morihovo district (east of Monastir) a party of four or five Evzones is reported to have been annihilated by one of these bands.

In view of this development one of the four squadrons of cavalry stationed here has been despatched to Perlepe, and the garrison of Monastir has been reinforced by the 2nd battalion of the 2nd regiment of the independent Morava brigade.

The one battery of field guns which was still here has been sent to Prilep.

According to local accounts several Bulgarian bands, consisting partly of men who have recently crossed the Vardar, and partly of local komitajis, have appeared in the Greek sphere round Ramtsa, Vallona, and Florina. The small garrison of Florina has been reinforced on this account by a battalion from Salonica.

I am informed that the 8th Greek division has been despatched from Epirus viâ Gorcha and Florina to Salonica.

It is believed that only the 9th division now remains in Epirus.

I have, &c.
C. A. GREIG.

Enclosure 3 in No. 721.

Vice-Consul Greig to Sir G. Lowther.

(No. 44. Confidential.)
Sir, *Monastir, July 9, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report on current events in this district as follows:—

Bulgarian Bands.

To deal with the Bulgarian bands, whose appearance in this district was reported in my immediately preceding despatch, the Servian authorities, in addition to the precautions already reported, are forming four locally recruited bands consisting of thirty men each under Greek leaders. One is to operate immediately east and north-east of Monastir, the others in the Morihovo region and in the plain of Monastir.

Besides these there are two Servian bands in this district, one near Perlepé and another between Lesoki and Gopesh.

A detachment of two hundred soldiers has been sent to Nikovo (12 miles north-east of Monastir, to co-operate with the counter-bands.

Expulsion of Exarchist Archbishops.

The Exarchist Archbishop of Monastir and his Archimandrite, who have been under arrest since the outbreak of hostilities, and the Exarchist Archbishop of Ochrida and Struga, have been sent to Salonica, whence, it is believed, they will be allowed to proceed to Constantinople.

Albanian matters.

Abdul Uppi Bey, a leading Nationalist, and formerly president of the Albanian club at Constantinople, who was recently expelled from Gorcha by the Greek authorities, has been arrested here being suspected of Bulgaro-Albanian intrigues.

I have, &c.
C. A. GREIG.

[35291] No. 722.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey (*Received July 31*)

(No. 654)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 24, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's acting consul-general at Salonica on the subject of the Greco-Bulgarian hostilities in that neighbourhood.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure 1 in No. 722

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Mr Marling

(No. 66. Confidential)
Sir, *Salonica, July 14, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 10th Greek divisions, after driving the Bulgarians out of Doiran, pursued them towards the north. The objective of the Bulgarian forces was Strumnitza, where they no doubt hoped to join up with the main Bulgarian army opposing the Serbs. In the pursuit two divisions of the Greek forces, making their way directly towards Strumnitza came into contact with part of the enemy at Kostarino on the 9th July and routed them.

In the meantime the Bulgarian forces flying from the Greeks had found on arrival at Strumnitza a continuous stream of Bulgarian troops flying from Ishtib towards Petritch, and thereupon joined them in their flight.

On the 10th July the Greeks occupied Strumnitza, capturing 700 prisoners and six cannon.

On the same day the Serbs had captured Badovishta, and Serbs and Greeks joined between Strumnitza and Badovishta.

The remaining three divisions of the Greek forces crossed the Balesh mountain and effected a junction with the two which had gone through the Strumnitza defile, pursuing the Bulgars in the direction of Petritch.

While the above divisions mentioned were making their way towards Petritch, viâ Strumnitza, the three divisions forming the Greek right wing, viz., the 1st, 6th, and 7th, had been occupied in building a bridge across the Struma at Orlisko and other fords to the north of Orlisko. The 1st and 6th divisions crossing the Struma marched directly on Demir-Hissar where a Bulgarian force composed of troops originally stationed there and troops who had left Serres on the one hand and from Doiran on the other held a strong position.

Serres, it may be mentioned, had been evacuated by the Bulgarian troops on the 5th July, General Ivanof, who had his headquarters there, having left in haste on the 4th only for Demir Hissar. Serres was occupied by Greek troops of the 7th division on the 5th July.

The Greek attack on Demir-Hissar, despite the natural strength of the position, ended in the victory of the Greeks after a short fight, and four siege guns were captured from the Bulgars. They fled towards Petritch, meeting there the Bulgars retreating from Ishtib and Strumnitza.

I have, &c.
JAMES MORGAN.

Enclosure 2 in No. 722

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Mr Marling.

(No. 67. Confidential.)
Sir, *Salonica, July 14, 1913.*

IN continuation of my immediately preceding despatch of to-day's date, I have the honour to report that the Bulgars assembled at Petritch on their flight from Strumnitza and Demir-Hissar were again attacked by the Greeks from the west and south, leaving

fifteen cannon in the hands of the victors, the Bulgarian army fled in rout up the Struma Valley towards Kressna and the Bulgarian frontier.

Servians and Greeks are now moving eastwards and northwards respectively with the object of catching the beaten force and destroying it.

The King of Greece and his staff are now at Hadji-Beyhk, near Demir-Hissar. The Bulgarians before retreating destroyed the railway bridge at Demir-Hissar, so that some time must elapse before railway communication can be made between Salonica and Serres.

Up to the present the Greeks estimate the number of Bulgarian prisoners taken at 6,000, including some 1,200 captured in Salonica. In addition seventy-three big guns and twenty machine guns have fallen into their hands.

Following what would now seem to have been a pre-arranged plan, the Bulgarians in retreating from Doiran carried off with them the Greek bishop and notables to Demir-Hissar. Before evacuating this town they killed the notables of Doiran and Demir Hissar to the number of 150. These figures are from Greek accounts.

At Serres about twenty-one Greek notables were killed by the Bulgarians before their departure, fourteen of these were seen lying with their throats cut in the Government offices at Serres by informants in whom I have confidence.

From Cavalla comes the news of the carrying off by the Bulgars when they retreated of some thirty Greek civilians. I hope shortly to get trustworthy accounts from Cavalla with regard to this.

The Bulgarians may perhaps justify their acts by asserting that for weeks past Greeks have been arresting Bulgarian civilians in Salonica and in the villages under their rule. The Greek reply is that such men are dangerous revolutionaries and agitators. The Bulgarians will no doubt make the same plea in regard to the Greeks, whom they have carried off, but impartial observers will hardly hesitate to pass the severest condemnation on the cruelty and inhumanity of the Bulgarian troops.

I have, &c.
JAMES MORGAN.

[35294] No. 723.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 657.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 24, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's acting consul-general at Salonica on the subject of the alleged Bulgarian massacres of non-combatant Greeks.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 723.

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Mr Marling.

(No. 69. Confidential.)
Sir, *Salonica, July 17, 1913.*

THE cruelty shown by Bulgars towards the inhabitants of Macedonia and Thrace in the beginning of their war with Turkey has again manifested itself in the new war begun against Servia and Greece.

At the beginning of the Balkan war against Turkey many massacres of Moslems were carried out by Bulgars in various parts. At that time, however, there were many who found excuses for the Bulgarian misdeeds, bringing forward the pleas that such crimes had been committed in the first heat of a struggle between nations who had been oppressed for centuries against their oppressors, and that the massacres were rather due to just vengeance than to any innate cruelty and lack of humanity and civilisation on the part of the Bulgarians.

But when Bulgarian rule was solidly established in Thrace and parts of Macedonia, when the defeat of Turkey was an accomplished fact, it was seen that

Bulgarian cruelty was still being exercised not only against Moslems, but against the Christian non-Bulgarian element, and months of bitter experience proved that Bulgarian cruelty and lust for blood were not momentary passions, but deep-seated characteristics of the people.

During the last six months a systematic campaign of forcible conversion of Moslems has been carried on, with the full approval of the Bulgarian authorities in Rupcheos, Raslog, Nevrocop, Drama, and Cavalla, and in many villages, whose names can be noted, Moslems have been beaten savagely and killed to make them abandon their faith.

Against the Greeks, too, a régime of oppression began very shortly after the first victories over the Turks, and the occupation of Thracian and Macedonian towns where Greeks were in the majority. Apart from severe measures intended to restrict the liberty of the Greeks and the imposition of new taxes and fines, the Bulgarians during the month of May, after the Greco-Bulgarian fighting on Mount Pangheon, pillaged Greek villages, among others, Pulcohor and Nuksjan, where many of the Greek women were violated. In addition, it is in my knowledge that the Bulgars often threatened the Greeks under their rule with a general massacre and bombardment of their towns in case the Hellene troops made any attempt to come to the help of their oppressed co-nationalists.

The threats of the Bulgarians have been carried out in the present campaign.

Forced to abandon Nigrita, the Bulgarians massacred the principal inhabitants and burnt the town, so that the Greek troops on entry found only blackened corpses in the streets. Four hundred and seventy is the estimate of Greeks massacred or burnt at Nigrita.

Before evacuating Doxan the Bulgarians carried off the Greek Bishop Photios and twenty notables, who were afterwards found (massacred and mutilated) by the Greek troops at Demir-Hissar. In addition to the massacre of the natives of Doxan, the Bulgarians bayoneted eighty of the notables of Demir-Hissar (Greeks), including the Bishop of Melnik, who was in the town. Twenty of the eighty were found still alive.

At Strumnitsa the Bulgarian troops retreating from Ishtib massacred sixteen Moslems and four Greeks.

At Serres the number of those massacred by the Bulgarians is estimated at fifty. How many perished in the flames is unknown. The bombardment and burning of Serres is indefensible. Six days elapsed between its evacuation by the Bulgarians and the entry of the Greeks. The town was utterly without defence, yet the Bulgars, animated by petty spite against the Greeks, real continuously on it from the hills and finally bombarded it. Half of the town is burnt, and the loss of tobacco, mostly held by English firms, will run into millions.

At Cavalla the Bulgars on leaving took away with them the Greek Bishop and thirty Greek notables, and as far as is feared they have shared the same fate as the notables of Doxan, Demir-Hissar, and Serres.

News has just come through from Doxat, an important Greek village between Cavalla and Drama, that the Bulgars have burnt the village and massacred 2,500 inhabitants.

In addition to the massacre of non-combatants, the Bulgarians are accused of the massacre of prisoners of war.

During the battle of Kilkish (Kilkish), the 2nd-4th July, the Greek troops acting near Sarigneul were pushed back for a while by a Bulgarian assault. Sub-Lieutenant Marinakis was left wounded on the ground evacuated by the Greeks. On their retaking the ground lost the sub-lieutenant's body was found, his eyes having been torn out and his head cut off.

The Bulgarians in committing these outrages on civilisation have forfeited all claim to sympathy. Greek feeling is intensely inflamed against them, and it is to be feared that reprisals will now take place. The Bulgarian komitajis may look for small quarter whether in uniform or not, and Greek public opinion will find it difficult to blame Greek troops for imitating the Bulgarians in their atrocities.

I have, &c.
JAMES MORGAN

[35295] No. 724.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 658.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 21, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from His Majesty's acting consul-general at Salonica reporting on the capture of Drama and Nevrocop and on rumours respecting the terms of peace.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 724

Acting Consul-General Morgan to Mr. Marling.

(No. 70. Confidential.)
Sir, *Salonica, July 18, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that during the last few days a lull has taken place in Greco-Bulgarian military operations in the region of Demir-Hissar-Strumnitza since the junction of Greek and Servian forces at Radovishta and Strumnitza on the 10th July.

In the Cavalla, Drama and Nevrocop region Cavalla was occupied without opposition by a landing party from Greek warships on the 9th July, the Bulgarian garrison having retired on the 8th July taking with them some thirty Greek notables, including the Archbishop. Fears that Drama would be burned by the Bulgarians and its inhabitants massacred, as at Serres, decided the Greek military authorities to act on that town. Accordingly a transport left Salonica on the 14th July with troops to co-operate with the Greek armies and sailors, and a dash was made for Drama which was captured on the 15th July. In this movement Greek troops marching from the Strouma River would seem to have taken part, an engagement with a body of 2,000 Bulgarians having taken place near Ahistrat before the fall of Drama. The Bulgarians retreated towards the north-east and seventy wagons of ammunition fell into the hands of the Greeks.

While returning from Drama and Cavalla Bulgarian troops burnt the important Greek village of Doxat on the Cavalla-Drama road, and Greek reports put at 2,500 the number of persons massacred. The foreign consuls at Cavalla have been invited by the Greek authorities to visit Doxat and investigate.

The fall of Nevrocop is reported, after a ten-hours' fight between three columns of Greek troops and a battalion of Bulgarians at Vrani, west of Demir-Hissar.

Rumours are current of the Greek occupation of Port Lagos and the landing of troops to march on Xanthi and save it from feared destruction.

The absence of news of any forward movement by the main body of the Greek forces would seem to point to preparations being made for a general advance north from the railway towards Djumabala and the Bulgarian frontier.

Political activity has been evident during the past week, and rumours of negotiations for peace are current.

M. Venizelos arrived here from Athens on Sunday, the 13th July, by the destroyer "Velos," and left at once for Hadji-Beylik to see His Majesty the King of Greece. Returning the same evening, he left early next morning for Uskub viâ Monastir direct. M. Pashitch, the Servian Premier, left yesterday the 17th July, and is the same afternoon for Piræus.

On the 15th July M. Theotokis, ex-Prime Minister of Greece, arrived at Salonica coming from Piræus by the "Velos," and, after an interview with the King at Hadji-Beylik, left again for Greece.

The press and public opinion here are now urging the army to march on Sophia and dictate the conditions of peace there, and King Constantine is represented as being in cordial agreement with this idea.

The "Liberté," the official organ of the authorities, proposes the following conditions of peace:—

"1. The complete cession of Macedonia.

"2. The payment of a war indemnity, including compensation for towns burnt and property destroyed.

"3 A régime of capitulations for Greeks living in Bulgaria, assuring them of complete freedom of worship and security of life and property

"4 The instant demobilisation of the Bulgarian army

Up to the present the number of Bulgarian prisoners taken by the Greeks is estimated at 10,000, and their losses in killed and wounded at 30,000.

Relief commissions are leaving for Serres, where half the population is homeless, and all elements—Moslem, Jewish and Greek, and especially the latter—are in urgent need of aid.

I have, &c.
JAMES MORGAN

[35296] No. 725.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey (Received July 31)

(No. 651.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 22, 1913.*

WITH reference to the last paragraph of the Admiralty letter to the Foreign Office, enclosed in your despatch No. 212 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report that Mr Weale of the Eastern Telegraph Company has informed His Majesty's Embassy that he is urging the Ottoman Government to allow the company to resume their service à Tenedos, Syra. He has made these applications before, but has been told to "wait for a few days"

I have, &c.
CHARLES M MARLING

[35297] No. 726.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31)

(No. 660.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 22, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a letter which I have received from Vice-Admiral Sir C Burney, president of the International Commission administering the town of Scutari, Albania, on the subject of the repayment of a loan contracted by the municipality of that place for the building of a bridge.

I presume that this matter will eventually be included in the general settlement, but I should be glad to be instructed as to what reply I should now send to Admiral Burney.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M. MARLING

Enclosure in No. 726.

Vice-Admiral Sir C Burney to Mr Marling

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the Turkish Government at Scutari in 1911 ordered the Municipal Council of the town to borrow the sum of 158,517 gold piastres to build a bridge across the River Boyana. This bridge has been constructed.

The repayment of the money borrowed at 9 per cent. per annum was to be made in three instalments, the first being due in January of this year. Owing to the war this sum was not paid.

I beg to request that you will approach the Ottoman Government with a view to the first instalment of the debt, which amounts to 70,125 gold piastres, being paid.

If this instalment is paid by the Ottoman Government, the International Commission administering the town of Scutari are prepared, on behalf of the town, to liquidate the remaining portion of the debt.

I have, &c.
CECIL BURNEY

[35300] No. 727.

Mr Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31)

(No. 664.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 26, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from the acting military attaché to this embassy, reporting on the march of the Turkish troops from the 16th July up to the occupation of Adrianople on the 22nd July.

I have, &c.
CHARLES M MARLING

Enclosure in No. 727.

Mr. Cooper to Mr Marling

(No. 31.)
Sir, *Constantinople, July 25, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report the following movements of the Turkish troops from the 17th July up to the occupation of Adrianople on the 22nd July.

Railway.

The railway up to Adrianople is now in good condition. The bridges have been quickly repaired by the civil and military engineers, but the hydraulic pumps for watering the engines were found to have been destroyed, and until these were remedied the trains could not run frequently as water having to be brought out by train from Constantinople. It was expected that from the 19th instant and onwards trains would run frequently from Constantinople to Loulebourgas, but would be reserved for provisions and transport only. Sidings were arranged at the "haltes militaires" to allow of trains passing one another, and stationmasters, with the necessary staffs, have been placed at all the stations.

The technical railway officials, with the help of 1,800 soldiers, were quickly set to work to re-establish the railway and State telegraphic communications.

Villages.

Most of the Turkish villages have been destroyed, whereas the Christian villages have, in comparison, been more or less respected, though the inhabitants complain bitterly of the treatment suffered by them at the hands of the Bulgarians, and of the fact that since the occupation of their villages they have had nothing for food except maize and boiled corn. The small Bulgarian garrison at Chatalja, on the approach of the Turkish cavalry, left hurriedly by a train consisting of one engine and one carriage, leaving behind seven sick in a waggon-hospital, fifteen waggons of provisions and a certain amount of ammunition.

At Kabakdja the Turks found two breechless Bulgarian guns.

July 16.—The main body of the Turkish army having rested at Sinekli, left on the morning of the 16th July for Tcherkeskeui, whilst the cavalry advanced slowly with precautions, re-establishing telegraphic communications, towards Mourath, where they hoped to encounter some Bulgarian detachments.

July 17.—On the 17th July the main body of the Turkish army, preceded by the 4th Army Corps with Enver Bey at their head, was marching slowly along the railway between Tcherkeskeui and Tchorlou. Enver Bey declared at Tcherkeskeui that no one could, nor had the right to stop the march of the Turkish troops on the Enos-Midia line, and that even should the Turkish Government obey the Powers, he, himself, would order the troops to advance on Adrianople and beyond.

At Tchorlou the Turkish cavalry found twenty-three Bulgarians sick in a shed. The village has suffered terribly, houses being pillaged, burnt, and demolished.

At 2 P.M., the advance cavalry occupied Loulébourgas without meeting with any resistance, and proceeded on its march for Baba Eski, the main body remaining the night at Mourad.

July 18. Enver Bey arrived at Sultan Yeri.

The Turkish cavalry (reinforced by two other squadrons) is divided into two sections —

One section, advancing on a large front to occupy the strategic point of Kondel-bourgas which leads to Dedeagatch and Adrianople, met with no resistance, 11 Bulgarian soldiers who had been left in the villages giving themselves up.

The other section, advancing towards Baba Eski in order to ensure the road to Kirk Kilissé, met with some resistance from detachments of Bulgarian infantry at Baba Eski, but after a few casualties on both sides the Bulgarians retired in the evening. Reinforcements were afterwards sent to this section as well as twelve machine guns.

July 19. During the night of the 19th the commander-in-chief, Izzet Pasha, arrived by special train, from Constantinople, at Mouratli where the main body was already concentrated. Izzet Pasha having previously given the order that all the Hademkeui-Chatalja forces should be concentrated at Mouratli as quickly as possible every effort was made by the railway officials to ensure the running of fourteen trains a-day between Hademkeui and Mouratli. The imams inspiriting the troops by urging them to secure Adrianople "where the bones of their sacred ancestors repose."

The troops are well provided for. Bread, biscuits, onions, rice, and potatoes arriving from Constantinople in abundance. Twice a week the men get about 5 lb. per twenty men of beef or mutton.

Everything has to be sent out from Constantinople, even the wood for cooking purposes, as the country is devastated.

July 20.— Enver Bey, with the 4th Army Corps, arrived at Kondelbourgas in the morning.

The first section of the Turkish cavalry occupied the station of Pavlokeui, about 20 miles south-east of Adrianople without the least resistance.

The second section of the Turkish cavalry reached Kavakli, about 13 miles south of Kirk Kilissé, meeting 25 Bulgarian soldiers.

July 21. The Turkish cavalry have arrived at the station of Ourli, about 25 miles from Adrianople, was ordered to wait there to join hands with Enver Bey's columns and the right wing of the Turkish army.

Three batteries of Krupp guns were sent off by special train from the station of Apostoli to facilitate the occupation of Kirk Kilissé and four infantry regiments were withdrawn from the main body to make a forced march on Kirk Kilissé.

Enver Bey and his columns arrived in the morning of the 21st instant at Pavlokeui, from whence they proceeded by train to Kondelbourgas.

At Ouzoun-keupru, the news was received by the recess of the Turkish occupation of Kirk Kilissé and the capture of a Bulgarian infantry battalion which is being sent back to Mouratli, half of it to be sent to Constantinople by sea via Rodosto, and the other half to Constantinople by train.

On arrival at Kondelbourgas, 35,000 Turkish infantry were met with coming from Boulair making a forced march to Ourli in order to join the advanced cavalry.

Two trains of soldiers were sent off from Mouratli for Ourli.

Messengers who arrived at Ourli from Adrianople told the Turks that the entrance to the town was free, that the number of the Bulgarians was few and that they had no artillery to speak of. The telegraph communication on the railway between Adrianople and Pavlokeui was found to be in working order.

It is calculated that 230,000 men are now actually in the field.

July 22.—The Turkish army, 65,000 strong, after a forced march during the night of 21st-22nd July, entered Adrianople on the morning of the 22nd instant, with Enver Bey at their head. The main body being at Ouzoun-keupru.

Sixteen special trains arrived at Ourli, coming from Constantinople and Hademkeui with fresh Anatolian troops, ammunition and 600 oxen from which place they will march to Adrianople. A weekly train will now run from Adrianople to Constantinople every Thursday.

Three thousand infantry and three batteries left Ouzoun-keupru for Demotika in order to ensure the road to Dedeagatch. It is said that Enver Bey will not be satisfied

with having occupied Adrianople, but Mustapha Pasha, sent a force to ensure Dramatic Cavalry [illegible] Bulgaria.

It is reported that the Turkish troops now muster 100,000 men.

I have, &c.

R. A. COOPER.

[35301] No. 728.

Mr. Marling to Sir Edward Grey.—(*Received July 31.*)

(No. 665.)

Sir, *Constantinople July 26, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a despatch from the Military attaché to this embassy reporting on movements of Turkish troops on the 23rd July, the information having been gathered from the usually well-informed source.

I have, &c.

CHARLES M. MARLING.

Enclosure in No. 728.

Mr. Cooper to Mr. Marling.

(No. 32.)

Sir, *Therapia, July 25, 1913.*

I HAVE the honour to report that on the 23rd July all troops, all war material, and provisions arriving by special trains from Constantinople and Mouratli were detrained at Ourli. As the railway transports, which were now coming into use, was sent by military motors and ox-transport carts to Mouratli, and from there by train to Ourli, as this is for the moment a [illegible] station south of Adrianople was burnt down by the Bulgarians.

The Turkish Government having firmly resolved to keep Adrianople, they are concentrating there 240,000 soldiers. On account of this the line which was to run weekly between Constantinople and Adrianople has been cancelled. The Adrianople-Mouratli section being reserved exclusively for military transports, and it would now only be about to go as far as Mouratli.

The following are the numbers of officers, men, and war material which arrived by train on the 23rd instant at Ourli:

156 officers.
18,080 infantry soldiers.
18 Krupp guns.
20 siege guns transferred from the Hademkeui forts.
10 wagons of shells.
16 metal pontoons.
1,100 cases of Mauser cartridges.

The above mentioned officers and men as soon as they arrived at Ourli once started for Adrianople, whilst the war material were sent by train on as far as Mouratli, to a few miles from Adrianople where it was discharged.

Apart from the train, service numerous columns are detached from the main body, and are spread out in every direction over the country in search of small bodies of all Bulgarian soldiers. Numerous Bulgarians every day fall prisoners into the hands of the Turks.

The Turkish troops who were marching from Kondelbourgas on Dedeagatch, met a Bulgarian detachment which offered resistance. But owing to the numerical superiority of the Turks, and the use of their machine guns, the Bulgarians soon surrendered after many casualties.

Ever since the entry of the Turkish troops into Adrianople there have been rumours of acts of vengeance against the Bulgars, Greeks and Armenians.

Contradictory rumours come from Adrianople, Kirk Kilissa, and from the villages of massacres and pillaging which have taken place during the last few days in the territories re-occupied by the Turks, one side accusing the other of horrors, and the other side the Turks.

But it is reported on good authority that the Turks, everywhere that they advance, are not the promised and expected deliverers. The non-mussulman villagers suffer, they are persecuted and arrested without reason, imprisoned, or sent off to Constantinople on various accusations which are generally fictitious. As an example, on the 23rd instant twenty-three Greek villagers and two priests were sent from Oarli by train to Constantinople on the charge of having lodged Bulgarian soldiers.

It seems that the Turkish soldiers, intoxicated by their unopposed march on Adrianople are beginning to dream of fresh conquests at the expense of the Greeks in Thrace and Macedonia. They consider themselves stronger than ever.

The idea that the exhaustion incurred by the Greeks and Servians offers them a unique opportunity seems to be appreciated by a certain number of officers.

I have, &c.
R. A. COOPER.

[35278] No. 729.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 160.)

Sir, *Athens, July 26, 1913.*

ON receipt of your despatch No. 73 of the 10th instant, I enquired of the acting French consul-general at Canea, who is in charge of British interests, what is the customs tariff now being applied in Crete. He has replied as follows:—

"Le Tarif actuellement en vigueur en Crète est celui des importations de l'étranger, avec tarif de faveur récemment institué et appliqué aux marchandises grecques."

With reference to the last point, and to my despatch No. 149 of the 27th June, I have the honour to state that the Austrian Minister received a few days ago his instructions to join his colleagues in protesting against the preferential treatment of Greek goods entering Crete. He is, however, personally of opinion that the time has gone by for making a protest, and most of my colleagues take the same view, I have therefore the honour to solicit fresh instructions in the matter.

I have, &c.
F. ELLIOT.

[35334] No. 730.

Sir R. Rodd to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 155.)

Sir, *Rome, July 28, 1913.*

WITH reference to my telegram No. 124 of yesterday's date, it would appear that the proposals alleged to have been made at Athens regarding the islands, of which the Italian Government had received information, have formed the subject of public discussion and, consequently, an official notification has been issued to the press through the usual channel in the following sense:—

"According to a telegram from Athens it has been stated there that the Italian Government has proposed to the Hellenic Government through a semi-official channel ('canale semi-ufficioso') that the possession of all the Ægean islands should be recognised to the sole benefit on that Italy should retain the island of Stampalia.

"The information in question is altogether devoid of foundation."

I have, &c.
RENNELL RODD.

[35416] No. 731.

Treasury to Foreign Office.—(Received July 31.)

Sir, *Treasury, July 30, 1913.*

I HAVE laid before the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury Sir L. Mallet's letter of the 28th ultimo inviting the observations of their Lordships on a question raised by the Servian delegate on the Financial Commission at Paris as to the surplus Cyprus revenues.

In reply I am to say that Sir Paul Harvey called at this Office on the 27th June last with reference to his despatch of the 26th idem, and as the matter was understood to be urgent, their Lordships ventured to supply him orally with information as to the facts of the case.

A memorandum on the subject is now enclosed for the consideration of the Secretary of State.

I am, &c.
ROBERT CHALMERS.

Enclosure in No. 731.

Memorandum respecting the Surplus Cyprus Revenues.

THE decision of His Majesty's Government to appropriate the surplus Cyprus revenues to the service of the Guaranteed Loan of 1855 was only arrived at after prolonged consideration and correspondence between the Foreign Office and the Treasury, and to a lesser extent the Colonial Office.

The story is very complicated, and will best be understood by reference to the full record which is contained, *e.g.*, in the printed confidential Foreign Office papers of the time. The following is a summary of the chief points which appear to be relevant to the contention now put forward by the Servian delegate:—

By the convention of the 27th June, 1855, the Sultan entered into the following engagements:—

ARTICLE 1.

"Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland undertakes to recommend to Her Parliament to enable Her to guarantee conjointly with His Majesty the Emperor of the French and His Majesty the Emperor of the French engages, subject to the ratification of the Legislative Body of France, to guarantee conjointly with Her Britannic Majesty the interest of a loan of 5,000,000*l.*, to be raised by His Imperial Majesty the Sultan.

ARTICLE 2.

"The interest payable on the said loan of 5,000,000*l.* shall be at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

"There shall, moreover, be paid by the Sublime Porte the further rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the whole capital of 5,000,000*l.* by way of sinking fund.

ARTICLE 3.

"The interest and sinking fund of the said loan shall form a charge on the whole revenues of the Ottoman Empire, and specially on the annual amount of the tribute of Egypt which remains over and above the part thereof appropriated to the first loan, and, moreover, on the customs of Smyrna and Syria.

"His Imperial Majesty the Sultan engages that he will cause to be remitted to the Bank of England, on or before the 25th June and the 25th December in each year, the full amount of one half year's interest and sinking fund on the whole amount of the

...d loan to be raised under the conjoint guarantee of Her Britannic Majesty and of His Majesty the Emperor of the French, or in such other form as may be raised, until the whole capital borrowed shall be repaid."

The Porte fulfilled her engagements to 1877, when she defaulted as regards the sinking fund and soon afterwards she made default also as to interest which had to be provided by France and England under the guarantee.

Before the Porte suspended payment the outstanding capital of the loan had been reduced to 3,815,200*l*.

	£
Interest on this at 4 per cent. amounts to ..	.. 152,608
In addition, expenses of management are	1,144
Total charge	153,752
To meet this charge there was the available part of the Egyptian tribute	72,000
Leaving ..	81,752

By the Anglo-Turkish Convention of the 4th June 1878, England acquired control over part of the revenues of the Ottoman Empire, viz., the surplus revenue of Cyprus, which was eventually fixed and agreed (some years after) by the Porte at 92,800*l*. (in round figures).

It was accordingly proposed in 1880 to apply the surplus revenue of Cyprus for the service of the loan.

On this proposal the Law Officers were consulted by the Foreign Office (see instructions of the 2nd December 1880), and advised in January 1881 in the following terms —

"1. That we are of opinion that Her Majesty's Government are entitled to treat the surplus revenues of Cyprus as part of the revenues of the Ottoman Empire which are charged by article 3 of the Convention of 1855 with the payment of interest on the loan of the Sinking Fund.

"2. We desire to point out that by the London protocol and article 3 of the Convention of 1855 the customs of Smyrna and Syria, as well as the surplus tribute of Egypt, are specially charged with the interest and sinking fund of the loan. And we would suggest (if it has not already been done) that before seeking to apply any part of the general revenues of the Ottoman Empire to the payment of the interest and sinking fund the Porte should be specially called upon by Her Majesty's Government to give them the benefit of the special security which they are entitled to by the Convention. Subject to this suggestion, and (if it be the opinion of the Government) to the proof on oath, we are of opinion that there is no objection to international right or equity (apart from considerations of political expediency) to the retention by Her Majesty's Government of so much of the surplus revenues of Cyprus as may be sufficient to satisfy the arrears now due by the Porte in respect of interest or sinking fund by way of reimbursement for the joint interest of Great Britain and France, of the charge created on the whole revenues of the Ottoman Empire by the Convention of 1855.

"3. If Her Majesty's Government were not entitled to rely on the charge imposed on the surplus revenues of Turkey by the convention, we think it would not be equitable to bring it to account by way of rateable credit or set-off, inasmuch as the special charge created upon it by the Porte of which Her Majesty's Government have notice gave a value to those to whom it was assigned, subject only to any pre-existing charge upon it."

In consequence of this advice Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople was instructed on the 3rd March, 1881, by the Foreign Office to, and did on the 30th April, 1881, call upon the Porte to give Her Majesty's Government the benefit of the special security to which they were entitled under the Convention of 1855, adding that if the demand should not be complied with it would be for Her Majesty's Government to consider what other arrangement could be made for securing the British Exchequer against loss by the default of the Turkish Government.

To this note, and not till the 25th July, 1881, the Porte returned only an evasive reply, promising consideration of the matter on the arrival at Constantinople of the delegates of the Turkish bondholders charged with the negotiations respecting the settlement of the public debt.

These negotiations led up to the decree of Moharrem, and the provision in that decree to which the Servian delegate has referred was doubtless inserted in view

of the claim which had been put forward by Her Majesty's Government in the previous April, and of the suspension of any payments to the Porte in respect of the surplus income of Cyprus.

In December 1881 the Porte enquired whether England and France would accept the Bulgarian tribute as security for the Guaranteed Loan. The Treasury view was that the Cyprus tribute was preferable to that of the guaranteeing Governments had the prior claim.

On the 14th January 1882, the Law Officers (who had been consulted as to the extent to which the French Government were entitled to share with the British Government in the Cyprus surplus for the benefit of the loan*) advised that any Cyprus surplus applied by the British Government to the redemption of the Guaranteed Loan was to be treated as revenue remitted by the Porte under article 3 of the Convention of 1855. Further the French Government ought to receive equal benefit from such application, therein they had no right to interfere with the ascertainment of the amount or the destination of the Cyprus revenues. Over this the British Government had sole control.

After further correspondence between the Treasury, Colonial Office, Foreign Office and the Porte the French Government was informed that a sum of 3,000*l*., representing their outstanding advances under the guarantee, was at their disposal, and that the British Government made the application of Cyprus revenue conditional on the guaranteeing Governments without prejudice to the future disposal of the sum, and that they left free to propose a different appropriation to the Porte thereafter (see despatch to Lord Lyons from Foreign Office of the 27th October).

Since that date the surplus revenue has been regularly applied by Great Britain first in discharging the balance of interest on the loan not covered by the Egyptian tribute, which balance amounts to 81,752*l*., as shown above, and the difference between this amount and the total surplus revenue of 92,800*l*. has been applied accumulated by way of sinking fund. It may be observed that the 11,987 the balance of the Cyprus surplus for the year 1881-2 was offered to Turkey, the offer was refused. Abortive proposals have from time to time been made for paying off the loan of 1855, and the Porte, certainly on two occasions in 1882 and 1884, has demanded payment of the arrears of the Cyprus tribute, but the proposal was refused on the ground that the surplus remaining after meeting the yearly interest was being retained to form a sinking fund.

Such being briefly the facts it is suggested that the answer to the contention of the Servian delegate might be somewhat to the following effect —

His Majesty's Government have been advised that they were entitled upon the circumstances which have arisen to treat the surplus revenues of Cyprus as part of the revenues of the Ottoman Empire which are charged by article 3 of the Convention of 1855 with the payment of interest and sinking fund of the loan, and moreover, that these revenues should be so related and dealt with as fully and beneficially as under the terms of article 3 of that Convention.

At the time when the decree of Moharrem was drawn up, and during the negotiations were proceeding between Her Majesty's Government and the Porte with the object of making arrangements for the service of the loan of 1855 such as would leave the surplus revenue of Cyprus, which meanwhile was being held in suspense by Her Majesty's Government, at the free disposition of the Sublime Porte. In these circumstances the provision to which the Servian delegate refers was inserted in the decree, but the assignment was only conditional. The negotiations between Her Majesty's Government and the Porte on this point proved abortive, and in consequence His Majesty's Government in accordance with legal advice, have retained the Cyprus surplus and applied it to the discharge of interest and sinking fund, solely for the charge imposed on the surplus revenue of Turkey by the Convention of 1855 and charge prior to any charge which could be created by the decree of Moharrem. These moneys accordingly have never been available for the purposes of the decree, or the alternative assignment of £T 130,000 on the produce of the tobacco monopoly, in force. It would appear that at least until His Majesty's Government assent to an arrangement whereby the surplus revenue of Cyprus (any portion thereof) should actually at the disposition of the Porte, there can be no question of any part of this sum being available in reduction of the assignment thereby made assignment now

* NOTE.—The case submitted by the Foreign Office on the 22nd December 1881 and its accompanying documents give a full explanation of the position. Foreign Office Confidential Paper 1607, No. 282.

operating) of £ T. 130,000 on the produce of the tobacco tithe. It is suggested that the Financial Conference must accept as one of the facts of the situation with which they have to deal the circumstance that there is a charge of £ T. 130,000 on the tobacco tithe, and that it is beyond their competence to consider what might have happened if the state of things as regards the surplus revenues of Cyprus which has existed for the last thirty years had been different.

Treasury, July 30, 1913.

[35443] No. 732.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received July 31.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, July* 31, 1913.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, decypher of a telegram, dated the 30th instant, relative to Albanian affairs.

I am, &c.
W. GRAHAM GREENE.

Enclosure in No. 732.

Vice-Admiral Sir C. Burney to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *July* 29, 1913.

YOUR No. 31.

For the present the Foreign Office consider it preferable for any such visit as you suggest to be deferred.

[35466] No. 733.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 328.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 31, 1913.

MY telegram No. 316 of 24th July.

"Chef de Cabinet," on behalf of King of the Bulgarians, has expressed to me hope that, although Turks have violated Treaty of London, the Great Powers, especially Great Britain, would see that Turkey was eventually confined to Enos-Midia line.

I replied in the sense of your telegram No. 154.

I believe that instructions will be sent to Bulgarian Minister, now on the way to London to discuss question with you.

(Sent to Constantinople.)

[35467] No. 734.

Sir H. Bax-Ironside to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 331.)
(Telegraphic.) *Sophia, July* 31, 1913.

MINISTER for Foreign Affairs informs me that his Government sincerely desire to come to a durable settlement at Bucharest.

He does not expect great difficulties with Servia, but he fears that Greeks will be exorbitant and will press demand for Cavalla. He has approached Russian and Austrian Governments, and assures me that they will endeavour to moderate Greek Government in this connection, and he would be most grateful if His Majesty's Government would do likewise.

If Greeks insist on Cavalla, Bulgarian Government would ask for European conference to settle frontiers, otherwise they will loyally accept Bucharest settlement.

(Sent to Athens viâ Belgrade, Constantinople, and Bucharest.)

[35324] No. 735.

Sir G. Barclay to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 150.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Bucharest, July* 31, 1913.

FOLLOWING is summary of proceedings at first meeting of the conference yesterday:—

Roumanian Prime Minister, president of conference, after welcoming the delegates, proposed a suspension of hostilities for at least five days. Greek Prime Minister thanked, in the name of the allies, for welcome accorded them, and agreed to suspension of hostilities, which was unanimously approved.

Chief Bulgarian delegate expressed his firm and sincere desire for prompt conclusion of peace "in a capital like Bucharest, where has always prevailed that 'sens européen' which must prevail in our discussions as a guarantee of justice and of lasting character of our decisions."

Conference directed military delegates to telegraph to respective headquarters that hostilities are suspended from mid-day to-day for five days.

(Sent to Athens, Sophia, and Belgrade.)

[35468] No. 736.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 124.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July* 31, 1913.

YOUR telegram No. 295 of 30th July to Paris.

I have read substance of Constantinople telegram No. 373 of 29th July to Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

German Government have heard nothing yet of proposed visit to Berlin of Osman Nizami Pasha. Under-Secretary of State would propose that if he comes to point out to him that retention of Adrianople entails keeping a very large body of troops there, as Bulgaria will certainly attack as soon as she has sufficiently recovered her strength; that consequently Turkey will not be able to devote her whole attention to consolidation of her Asiatic provinces, which are infinitely more important to her, and that she would be therefore much wiser to bow to the unanimous wish of the Powers and thereby gain their good-will, which might in the first instance probably lead to strategical improvements in Enos-Midia line.

[35469] No. 737.

Earl Granville to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 125.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Berlin, July* 31, 1913.

I HAVE communicated to Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs your telegram No. 296 of 30th July to Paris.

Under-Secretary of State considers that, in the circumstances, official application should not be made to Sweden, and German Government will agree to appointment of officers of any other neutral State, the most suitable being probably Denmark or Switzerland.

[35465] No. 738.

Sir F. Elliot to Sir Edward Grey.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 144.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Athens, July* 31, 1913.

I HAVE read Sir H. Bax-Ironside's telegram No. 325 of 28th July to Greek Minister for Foreign Affairs. He asks for names of places where Greek outrages are said to have occurred and courts the fullest enquiry.

Allegation as regards Kilkish refuted by evidence of French priest, but the Minister admits the destruction of town, which was nest of komitajis and full of bombs.

He says that there are no irregulars with Greek army, as the King will not have them. That they exist at a distance from His Majesty is, however, proved by despatches of acting consul-general at Salonica.

(Sent to Sophia viâ Belgrade.)

[35262] No. 738°.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 159.)
(Telegraphic.) *Code.* *Foreign Office, July* 31, 1913.

YOUR telegram No. 327A of 30th July: British Red Cross Mission to Bulgaria. Mission will be composed of six members.

[34945] No. 739.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 365.)
(Telegraphic.) R. *Foreign Office, July* 31, 1913.

YOUR telegram No. 369 of 29th July: Turkish atrocities.

I approve your action.

[34354] No. 740.

Sir Edward Grey to Mr. Marling.

(No. 231.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 31, 1913

MR. CECIL LUBBOCK, director of the Constantinople Quays Company, called at this Office on the 25th July and informed Lord Onslow that he thought it possible that the company which he represented might approach the Turkish Government with the view of endeavouring to secure that the strip of frontage to the sea, forming part of the land at Tophane which the Turkish Government are endeavouring to dispose of, should be included in the concession which the Constantinople Quays Company hold, on an agreement to construct quays there or on other conditions satisfactory to the Turkish Government. Mr. Lubbock expressed the hope that in the event of the company approaching the Turkish Government in the above sense, His Majesty's Embassy and the French Embassy would be instructed to accord them support.

Should the company take such action as was foreshadowed by Mr. Lubbock you should act in accordance with his wish.

I transmit to you for your information copies of a despatch which I have received from His Majesty's Ambassador at Paris on the subject, and of my reply.*

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[34354] No. 741.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Bertie.

(No. 468.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 31, 1913.

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch No. 364 of the 7th instant transmitting copy of a note addressed to Mr. Carnegie on the 3rd July by the French Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting the proposal for securing a mortgage on the Tophane lands.

Mr. Cecil Lubbock called on Lord Onslow on the 25th instant and was shown M. Pichon's note. Mr. Lubbock remarked that this note was written before the meeting of the directors of the Quays Company in Paris, and that the French Government,

* No. 165.

when the note was written, were under the impression, as were all the French directors before Mr. Lubbock enlightened them, that the National Bank of Turkey were willing to come forward and join the syndicate for the acquisition of the Tophane land.

Lord Onslow informed Mr. Lubbock that, subject to any observations he might have to suggest, I proposed to instruct your Excellency to inform M. Pichon that I agreed with his view, but that the Bank of England was not prepared to advance any money, and it was suggested that the Imperial Ottoman Bank and the Quays Company should arrange the matter between them on the lines suggested by M. Pichon, and that His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople would be instructed to support this solution.

Mr. Lubbock replied that the Quays Company had no wish, nor indeed was it possible for them, to enter into so large a speculation as the development of the Tophane land. Their sole preoccupation was to obtain a strip of land along the sea front which they might develop in the future by the construction of quays. As regards the Imperial Ottoman Bank, Mr. Lubbock said that he did not think that there was any prospect that they would be willing to enter into the syndicate, and it therefore seemed clear that British capital would not take up the matter.

Mr. Lubbock accordingly suggested that the French Government should be informed in reply to M. Pichon's note that British capital did not seem prepared to participate in any scheme for the acquisition of the Tophane land, but that it was for the general advantage of the town of Constantinople and no detriment, in fact rather the contrary, to any syndicate which might acquire the rest of the land that the Quays Company should retain a strip of it for the construction of quays. It was possible that the Quays Company might approach the Turkish Government and endeavour to secure that the strip in question should be included in their present concession an agreement for the construction of quays or other conditions satisfactory to the Turkish Government. If this were the case, Mr. Lubbock expressed the hope that His Majesty's Ambassador and the French Ambassador at Constantinople might be instructed to support the request.

I transmit to your Excellency herewith copy of a despatch which I have addressed to His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople instructing him to act accordingly should this request be made by the company.*

Your Excellency should reply to M. Pichon in the sense of this despatch, informing his Excellency of the instructions which have been sent to Mr. Marling.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[36255] No. 742.

Sir Edward Grey to Earl Granville.

(No. 243.)
My Lord, *Foreign Office, July* 31, 1913.

I TOLD the German Ambassador to-day of the proposition that I wished to make about the southern frontier of Albania, as recorded in my despatches No. 155 to Sir F. Cartwright and No. 196 to Sir R. Rodd of to-day.

He said that he thought it was a fair proposal to make.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[34005] No. 743.

Sir Edward Grey to Count Mensdorff.†

Your Excellency, *Foreign Office, July* 31, 1913.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter addressed to His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople by the President of the Council of Administration of the Ottoman Public Debt,‡ complaining of the action of the Albanian Provisional Government in ordering the agency of the Debt at Durazzo to cease to use

* No. 740.
† Also to Prince Lichnowsky, the Marquis Imperiali, Count Benckendorff, and M. Cambon.
‡ Sir A. Block to Mr. Marling, July 12, 1913.

Ottoman stamps and to pay to the Treasury the receipts derived from the sale of stamps.

I have no doubt that a similar letter has been addressed to the representative of each of the other Great Powers who have commissioners on the council of the Debt.

The question raised by Sir Adam Bloch appears to be one which should eventually be dealt with by the commission of control to be instituted in Albania, but as some little time must necessarily elapse before that body can enter on their duties, I have the honour to suggest that the representatives of the interested Powers at Constantinople should be instructed to inform the Administration of the Debt that the agent of the Debt at Durazzo should receive orders to decline to comply with the requests of the Albanian Provisional Government.

I have, &c.
E. GREY.

[36254] No. 744.

*Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.**

(No. 155.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 31, 1913.*

I EXPLAINED to the Austrian and Italian Ambassadors together this afternoon that it would be impossible to have meetings of the Ambassadors after next week. I would propose that, after next week, it should be announced that, as Parliament was going to rise in the following week and I was going away—and, I thought, one or two of the Ambassadors also—the meetings had been adjourned with the intention of being convoked again when circumstances rendered this necessary. The best chance of settling the question of the southern frontier of Albania before we adjourned seemed to me to be an agreement that an international commission should delimit the southern frontier, with instructions that Koritza and Stylos must be included in Albania.

To this the Ambassadors added the island of Sasseno.

I said that I thought that was understood.

They also said that it was understood that the Corfu Canal must be neutralised.

I agreed that this had been the expectation.

I proceeded to say that this agreement would be on the condition that the islands in the occupation of Greece, except Tenedos, Imbros, and Thasos, should be left to Greece in the final settlement.

To this the Ambassadors raised no objection.

I said further that the question of Koritza and Stylos would never be settled as long as Italy remained in occupation of Ægean islands, and I would therefore propose that Italy should undertake that, when Koritza and Stylos were placed under the Albanian Government, she would not prolong her occupation of the islands now occupied by her, but would restore them to Turkey.

The Italian Ambassador said that no Italian Government could stand if they restored the islands to Turkey before the provisions of the Treaty of Lausanne had been fulfilled, and there were still Turkish troops in Tripoli.

I observed that if the fulfilment of a treaty by Turkey was the condition for the continuance of the occupation, as Turkey never fulfilled a treaty entirely, occupation might be indefinitely prolonged. Indeed, I said subsequently to the Austrian Ambassador alone that to make a thing dependent upon the fulfilment of a treaty by Turkey, though it was not exactly equivalent to a freehold, might almost be regarded as equivalent to a 999 years' lease.

The Austrian Ambassador suggested that possibly some form of words might be found limiting the condition to the withdrawal of Turkish troops in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Lausanne.

I said that the final destination of the islands ceded by Italy to Turkey should be decided by the Powers. This might be useful in connection with Adrianople.

The Italian Ambassador was anxious that the question should not be put before the *réunion* till he had consulted his Government.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

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* Also to Sir R. Rodd (No. 196).

[36256] No. 745.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir F. Cartwright.

(No. 156.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 31, 1913.*

THE Austrian Ambassador left the following communication with me to-day :—

"Le Gouvernement Impérial et Royal, tout en adhérant à la proposition de déclarer au Gouvernement monténégrin que les Puissances prendront en considération les mesures nécessaires pour le règlement de la question de régularisation du lac de Scutari et de la Boiana et pour une assistance financière, se réserve d'exposer en temps utile ses propositions sur les détails de ces deux questions.

"Le Comte Berchtold aimerait à être informé où l'arrangement relatif à cette assistance financière sera discuté entre les Puissances et le Gouvernement monténégrin. D'après lui, les représentants des Puissances à Cettigné pourraient être chargés de ces négociations."

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[36257] No. 746.

Sir Edward Grey to Sir H. Bax-Ironside.

(No. 116.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 31, 1913.*

M. MAJAROF came to see me to-day on his return as Bulgarian Minister to London. He said that he expected a settlement to be come to in Bucharest, but it was very desirable that the Powers should induce Greece to give way about Cavalla. He explained that there could never be railway communication between Sophia and Dedeagatch, owing to the intervening mountains, and Cavalla was the only possible port for Bulgaria.

I asked him to show me on the map what Greece and Servia were claiming.

He did so, and showed me that their claims would leave Bulgaria nothing but the strip of mountains to the south, and a small access to the sea at Dedeagatch. This strip of mountains along the southern frontier of Bulgaria was all that Bulgaria would get of Macedonia, though the liberation of Macedonia from Turkey was due mainly to the efforts of Bulgaria.

I said that terrible things had happened since he was last here, a month ago, and everything was plunged in great confusion. I could not say what the action of the Powers would be, and all I could do for the moment was to look at the facts of the situation. All the Balkan nationalities were making terrible charges against one another.

The Bulgarian Minister said that he was instructed to press for an international commission to enquire into the charges against Bulgaria. No nationality was completely innocent; feelings had run very high; but an international commission might ascertain the degree of culpability between the nationalities.

I said that I was consulting the other Powers; but Turkey, Greece, Servia, and Montenegro, against all of whom charges had been made at one time or another, might also demand an enquiry; and it was difficult to see what evidence would be forthcoming so long after the events, or how the truth was to be ascertained, except where there had been independent and impartial eye-witnesses.

I am, &c.
E. GREY.

[34957] No. 747.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 31, 1913.

I AM directed by Secretary Sir E. Grey to transmit to you herewith copies of a despatch which has been received from His Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna,* and of a note † which has been addressed to Sir E. Grey by the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador in regard to a letter alleged to have been addressed by Vice-Admiral Sir Cecil Burney to the chiefs of the Little Malaia district.

Sir Edward Grey would be grateful if copies of these documents might be forwarded to Sir C. Burney with a request for his observations.

I am, &c.
W. LANGLEY.

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* No. 602. No 671